THE

Charter *and* Grants

OF THE

Company of STATIONERS

OF THE

City of LONDON,

Now in Force,

CONTAINING

A *plain* and *rational* Account of the FREEMEN's

Rights and Privileges,

Fairly produced, and, where neceſſary, *impartially* explain'd.

IN ORDER

To *aſcertain* the *Authority* annexed to the *Office* of *Maſter* and *Wardens*,

AND

To *redreſs* the *Hardſhips* and *Miſeries* of the *injured* and *oppreſſed* FREEMEN.

To which is added,

An APPENDIX:

SHEWING,

That the *Court of Aſſiſtants* was *impoſed* upon the FREEMEN

BY

A CHARTER granted by CHARLES II.

WHICH, BECAUSE

It was found *unreaſonable*, *oppreſſive* and *illegal*,

WAS

Revoked, and made *null* and *void*

BY

An ACT of PARLIAMENT in the 2 *W.* & *M.*

SO THAT

Upon the whole, it will be found to be expreſly *ordain'd* and *granted*,

That the ſaid Company muſt be *governed* by MASTER and WARDENS *only*:

That the *Maſter* and *Wardens* muſt be *elected* and *removed at Pleaſure* by the FREEMEN *for ever*:

And, That the Profits of the *Engliſh Stock* muſt be for the HELP and RELIEF of the *Poor Freemen*, and not for the SUPPORT of the *Maſter*, *Wardens* and *Aſſiſtants*, and their *Relations* and *Dependents*.

LONDON:

Printed by R. NUTT, in the *Old Baily*. MDCCXLI.

(Price Two Shillings and Six-pence.)

THE

Charter and Grants

OF THE

Company of STATIONERS

OF THE

City of LONDON,

Now in Force,

CONTAINING

A plain and impartial Account of the PRIVILEGES

Rights and Immunities,

Fully proved and, where necessary, explain'd.

IN ORDER

To preserve the Authority annexed to the Office of Master and Wardens,

To redress the Grievances and Offices of the injured and oppressed BRETHREN.

To relieve it needed,

An APPENDIX:

SHEWING,

That the Court of Aldermen was deprived upon the PRETENCE

BY

A CHARTER granted by CHARLES II.

WHICH, BECAUSE

It was found unreasonable, oppressive and illegal,

WAS

Repealed, and made null and void

BY

An Act of PARLIAMENT in the 2 W. & M.

SO THAT

Upon the whole, it will be found to be the most perfect and general

Collection of Charter and Parliamentary MATTER and WARRANTS ever

Yet the Right and Method and Manner of Proceeding

By the PRESENT PRACTICE:

And That the Duties of the Apollo Shall and be for the HEAD and

Assistants of the Company, and for the SUPPORT of the Apollo,

Worthy and Ingenious, and their Relations and Dependants.

LONDON:

Printed by T. NUTT, in the Old Bailey. MDCCXXII.

(Price Two Shillings and Sixpence.)

An ADDRESS

To ſuch of the FREEMEN *of the* Stationers Company *as have never given* themſelves *the Trouble to examine and look into the Adminiſtration of* their own Officers.

GENTLEMEN,

WE hope you'll excuſe the *Freedom*, and accept of the *Sincerity* of the following Addreſs. We are ſenſible that thoſe who go about to open the Eyes, or take upon them to *redreſs* the GRIEVANCES of a Society, undertake an Office liable to *Malice*, and beſet with many *Diſcouragements*; and that they are frequently thought to betray too great a Confidence of their own Capacity: For, as every Man has a good Conceit of his own Merit, it is natural for him to think himſelf undervalued by thoſe that offer their Advice, be the Occaſion of it ever ſo preſſing, or ever ſo important.

Experience has convinced us, that few Men ever part with their *Miſtakes* and *Prejudices* at once: And it is very probable it may be looked upon as an *unacceptable* Civility, to attempt to let in the Rays of Underſtanding upon ſuch Minds as have been uſed *to ſubſiſt in the Dark*: In all Societies there ever was, and ever will be *ſome* ſuch. Nevertheleſs, there is a manifeſt Difference between *natural* and *acquired* Ignorance; the *former* is capable, and generally willing to be *ſet right*; but the *laſt* is apt to think itſelf above it, is always *too wiſe* to be *informed*, and conſequently

ſtands upon its Guard *againſt* the Force of *Reaſon* and *Common Senſe*: But this we truſt can be the Caſe of very few we are now applying to.

All of you, Gentlemen, may be well aſſured, that no Government whatever can long ſubſiſt, but upon its *natural* and *original* Foundation, and by frequently recurring to the Principles upon which it was *firſt* and *naturally* founded: It is impoſſible it ſhould ſtand *ſecure* upon any other; and when that is *ſapped* and *undermined*, the Superſtructure muſt totter, if not fall to the Ground, till Things are turned into their *original* and *proper* Channel.

Our *preſent* Set of OPPRESSORS, who, in the Heat of their *Demands*, and *Contention* for *Power* and *Dominion* over us, have ſtarted, and impetuouſly maintained ſuch *wild* and *unchartered Claims*, as has drawn the Light on the following Pages. Their mad and ſelfiſh Proceedings, *per fas & nefas*, has made this Step abſolutely neceſſary; for they have obſerved neither *Meaſure* nor *Mercy* in *their* Demands upon us, nor have *they* made them at *due* and *diſcreet* Intervals, or in any *rational* or *judicious* Proportion: *Their Aims* have been too open, and *their Management* too coarſe; *They* have long made it evident, that they ſadly want the *Temper* and *Talents* of ſuch as ought to *govern* a Society.

The *Pomp* and *Grandeur* of the *Maſter*, *Wardens* and *Aſſiſtants*, and *their Relations* and *Dependents*, have long ſtood upon the *Miſeries* of the FREEMEN; and their growing ſo *unconſcionably* great at the Expence of the *Commonalty*, is ſuch a Stretch of *Arrogance*, *Folly* and *Injuſtice*, as cannot be aggravated.

In ſhort, Gentlemen, you'll find by the following Pages, that not only your *Charter*, but the *Laws of the Land*, are *point blank* in your Favour; and therefore the *Strength* of YOUR *Oppreſſors* only lies in YOUR want of *Spirit* and *Reſolution*; and we doubt not but you'll ſoon diſcern, that *their* Proſperity has been owing to *your* Undoing.

The

An Addreſs *to the* Freemen.

The miſerable State of *Slavery* and *Bondage*, which, upon the Peruſal of the following Pages, you'll find you are *actually* (tho' perhaps *unaccountably*) got into, and from which it is now in your own Power to extricate yourſelves, there being at preſent a laudable Spirit of Liberty ſubſiſting amongſt the *independent* FREEMEN to reſcue their *Rights* and *Privileges* out of the Hands of your OPPRESSORS; we ſay, for this Reaſon it is therefore hoped you'll not ſuffer yourſelves to be any longer *hood-winked*, *cajoled* or *menaced*: It is hoped, *now you have broad day-light*, that you'll not ſuffer *Poſterity*, much more *yourſelves*, to be *duped* and *plundered* any longer.

Conſider well the following *Pages*, and then tell us,

☞ 1. *What can hinder* you *from* IMMEDIATELY removing *the* preſent *Officers*, *and* electing *your* chartered *Officers*, viz. *the* Maſter *and* Wardens, *as your* Charter *and* Reaſon *appoint*?

☞ 2. *What can hinder* you *from having the* FEES *reduced to the* legal *and* rational *Standard*?

☞ 3. *What can hinder* you *from* equitably *and* fairly *dividing the* PROFITS *of the* Engliſh Stock, &c. *for your* HELP *and* RELIEF, *as the* Grants *direct*?

☞ 4. *What can hinder* you *from calling ſo many of your* OPPRESSORS as are now living, *to a* ſtrict *and* fair *Account for their* Conduct *and* Miſapplications? *And what can hinder* you *from forcing* them *to diſgorge their* unjuſt *Acquiſitions*?

We are ſure, Gentlemen, there is no *Law*, no *Juſtice*, no *Reaſon*, nor any thing elſe *that is commendable or praiſe-worthy*, that can lay you under the leaſt Reſtraint from ſo doing.

We are,

Your humble Servants,

Several Independent Freemen.

P. S. We had once an Intention of adding to the APPENDIX an *Abridgment* of the Company's *printed* BY-LAWS, and we had ſeveral of them prepar'd accordingly: But, however *illegal* and *clumſy* they may appear, as they have choſe to lay them before the World, they make ten times a worſe Figure, when ſtrip'd of that *obſcure Cant* and *authoritative Nonſenſe* they are *diſguiſed* in. In ſhort, to ſay the beſt of them, they appear ſo exceeding *idle* and *ridiculous*, that not only the *Honeſty*, but even the *common Senſe* of thoſe, who have *formerly* call'd themſelves the *Maſter*, *Wardens* and *Aſſiſtants*, would be for ever call'd in Queſtion, if they were *ſo* permitted to ſee the Light.——But that muſt not hinder our making the following Obſervations on them, *viz.*

The *Firſt* Parcel of *printed* BY-LAWS were *ſigned* by the *Chancellor* and *Chief Juſtices*, *Feb.* 2, 1677, in 30 *Car.* II.
The *Second* Parcel, *&c.* —— —— —— *Oct.* 7, 1681, in 33 *Car.* II.
The *Third* Parcel, *&c.* —— —— —— —— *Feb.* 10, 1682, in 35 *Car.* II.

So that

The *Firſt* BY-LAWS they would have us believe *the Company* ever had *ſigned*, was in the Year 1677
The *Stationers* were *incorporated* in the 3d and 4th of PHILIP and MARY, in the Year —— 1556

So that, if you'll believe them, *the Company* had no *ſign'd* BY-LAWS ſubſiſting for the *firſt* 121 Years; which is *impoſſible*:

Becauſe,

The *Stationers* were *incorporated* in the Year —— —— —— —— 1556
The *Act of Parliament*, reſtraining all Companies (under a ſevere Penalty) from making or executing any BY-LAWS, unleſs *ſign'd* by the *Chancellor*, *Chief Juſtices*, *&c.* was paſſed 19 *Hen.* VII. *Anno* 1503

So that ALL Companies were obliged to have their BY-LAWS *ſigned* —— 53 Years *before* the *Stationers* were *incorporated*: And, therefore, for any to pretend they could not have their BY-LAWS *ſigned* till the Year 1677, is *idle* and *abſurd*; for they *might*, and *no doubt had* BY-LAWS *ſign'd* above 100 Years *before*.

But *all theſe Difficulties* are eaſily got over, if we'll ſuppoſe ALL the *Old* BY-LAWS to be *deſtroyed* or *laid aſide*, and theſe *New* BY-LAWS, which were contrived to countenance *arbitrary* Meaſures, *impoſed* upon the FREEMEN in their ſtead: And we don't in the leaſt doubt but this will appear to be the Caſe, when, in the *Courſe of our Proceedings*, we ſhall be *authorized* to inſpect the Company's Books.

A LIST of ſeveral Impoſitions

A LIST *of thoſe* STATIONERS, *who call themſelves the preſent* Maſter, Wardens *and* Aſſiſtants *of* their *Company.*

MASTER.

James Round, *Eſq*; *St. Mary-Axe.*

WARDENS.

Mr. Thomas Brewer, *Ludgate-Street.*
Mr. Thomas Ward, *Eſſex-Street.*

ASSISTANTS.

John Baſkett, *Eſq*; *Black-Fryars.*
Mr. John Walthoe, *Kenſington.*
Mr. Daniel Midwinter, *St. Paul's Church-Yard.*
Mr. James Roberts, *Warwick-Lane.*
Mr. William Mount, *Tower-Hill.*
Samuel Aſhhurſt, *Eſq*; *Fulham.*
Mr. John Watts, *Wild-Court.*
Mr. John Knapton, *Ludgate-Street.*
James Brooke, *Eſq*; *London-Bridge.*
Mr. William Innys, *Weſt End of St. Pauls.*
Mr. Thomas Ridge, *Cornhill.*
Mr. Thomas Page, *Tower-Hill.*
Steph. Theodore Janſſen, *Eſq*; *Weſt End St. Paul's.*
Mr. Thomas Longman, *Pater-noſter Row.*

The 15 *following were* TAKEN-IN *by the Perſons above-named, the* 1*ſt Day of* December, 1741.

Mr. Charles Rivington, *St. Paul's Church-Yard.*
Mr. William Wilkins, *Lombard-Street.*
Mr. John Peele, *Amen-Corner.*
Mr. Samuel Richardſon, *Saliſbury-Court.*
Mr. Aaron Ward, *Little-Britain.*
Mr. John March, *Tower-Hill.*
Mr. Robert Vincent, *Ludgate-Street.*
Mr. Samuel Birt, *Ave-Mary-Lane.*
Mr. John Clark, *Duck-Lane.*
Mr. Thomas Wotton, *Fleet-Street.*
Mr. Richard Hett, *Poultry.*
Mr. Paul Knapton, *Ludgate-Street.*
Mr. Charles Hitch, *Pater-noſter Row.*
Mr. Thomas Baſkett, *Putney.*
Jacob Tonſon, *Eſq*; *Strand.*

The

THE FREEMEN's APOLOGY

For Printing their

CHARTER, GRANTS, &c.

THE inhumane Treatment *and* inſupportable Oppreſſions, *which the* FREEMEN *of the* Stationers *Company have* long *and* unjuſtly *groan'd under, and which they have* friendly *and* frequently, *tho'* in vain, *remonſtrated againſt, has forced them to lay their Caſe before the Publick, till Redreſs can be* LEGALLY *obtained. And, therefore,*

In the following Pages we have endeavoured impartially to repreſent the Rights and Privileges of every FREEMAN *of the* Stationers *Company, from their reſpective* Charter *and* Grants, *in ſuch a Manner, that their Obligations, as Members of that Fraternity, may appear to honeſt Minds in their* original Simplicity, *and which have been long rendered very* obſcure *and* uneaſy *to them, by the wrong Notions they have, by ſome Means or other, embraced concerning the* Authority *of their own Officers.*

As the CHARTER *and* GRANTS *are the* only *Foundation the* FREEMEN in general *have to reſt upon,* THEY *muſt of neceſſity be our* beſt *Directions, both as to our underſtanding their* true *Intent, and as to the Meaſures of our Behaviour to each other, unleſs we are ſo* childiſh *as to give up* THESE, *and have Recourſe to the* mere *Inventions of* ambitious *Men, whoſe* Partiality *has forced Matters much out of their* proper *Channel, and who, by* By-Laws, Reſolutions, &c. *of* their own making, *have made themſelves* too *conſiderable to be regarded.*

It may be too great a Temptation to human Frailty, apt to graſp at Power, for the ſame Men to have the ſole

ſole *Power of* MAKING BY-LAWS, *and to have alſo in their Hands the* ſole *Power to* EXECUTE *them*; *becauſe, by* ſuch Means, *they may* exempt themſelves *from Obedience to the* Laws *they make, and ſuit the* Law, *both in its* Making *and* Execution, *to their own private Advantage, and thereby come to have a* diſtinct Intereſt *from the reſt of the* Community; *which is contrary to the End of all* Society *and* Government. *And therefore we have endeavoured by* confining *their Attention to* all *that is ſaid about them in the* CHARTER *and* GRANTS, *(which muſt be allowed to be the* beſt *Authority to declare the* Nature *of* theſe *Obligations) neither on the one hand* diminiſhing *the Power and Authority of the* Maſter *and* Wardens, *nor, on the other hand,* augmenting *that of the* Freemen. *Becauſe,*

For our *Parts, we are firmly perſuaded, that the* beſt *Way to preſerve that Value and Regard, that is* really *due to the* Officers *of the Company, is to place them in* that point *of Light the* CHARTER *has left them: And the greateſt Service that any one can do the Company, we think, is to* remove *whatever hinders it from being ſeen, as it* really *is in* itſelf; *becauſe, for Men to* pretend *to* more *than either their* CHARTER *or* GRANTS, *the* LAWS *of the* Land, *or* COMMON SENSE *can juſtify them in aſſuming, What is it but making themſelves* ridiculous; *and, when Matters can be* clearly *underſtood, the* ſtanding Jeſt *of the Publick?*

We expect it will be ſaid, that notwithſtanding the Charter *may have placed the* Right of Election *in the* FREEMEN, *yet* Experience *has ſhewn, that to lay the Foundation of Government in the* unſteady *Opinion and* uncertain *Humour of the* FREEMEN, *is to expoſe it to a certain Ruin; and that it can never ſubſiſt long, if the* FREEMEN *may ſet up* NEW Maſters *and* Wardens *whenever they take Offence at the* old ones. *To this we anſwer,* Quite the contrary; *for People are not ſo eaſily got out of their* old Forms, *as ſome, who have never well weighed theſe Matters, are apt to imagine:* They *are hardly to be prevailed with even to attempt to mend the* acknowledged *Faults in the* Form *they have been accuſtomed to, even when all the World ſees there is an* Opportunity *as well as a* Neceſſity *for it.*

Nay, this Power *veſted in the* FREEMEN *and* their Succeſſors for EVER, *of providing for their Safety* A-NEW, *by appointing new Officers, when they are of Opinion that the old ones have abuſed their Truſt, is the beſt Fence againſt* Diſorder *and* Confuſion, *and the moſt probable Means to prevent them. And if* this Method *had been adhered to, there could have been no Foundation for our* preſent *Diſputes.*

We grant, that the Pride, Ambition *and* Turbulency *of a few* buſy-headed obſtinate FREEMEN, *may throw a Society into great and fatal Diſorders: But whether, in the* preſent *Caſe, the* FREEMENS *Wantonneſs, and a Deſire to caſt off the* reaſonable *and* legal *Authority of their* OFFICERS, or *their* OFFICERS *Inſolence and Endeavours to get and exerciſe an* arbitrary Power *over the* FREEMEN; *we ſay, whether it has been* Diſobedience *or* Oppreſſion, *that firſt gave Riſe to our* preſent *Diſputes, is ſubmitted to every judicious and impartial Reader of the following Pages to determine.*

We hope by this Time it may appear, that whatever others *may have done, it is not* our *Buſineſs to amuſe the* Maſter *or* Wardens, *nor the* Freemen *neither, with greater and higher Expectations than the* CHARTER *and* GRANTS *have given them any Reaſon to entertain: And, if in the following Pages we have but* impartially *laid down the* mutual Obligations *of the* Freemen *and their* chartered Officers, *we think it of little Importance from how* many *or how* great *Men of the Fraternity we happen to differ: Yet we are deſirous to affirm, that where we differ from them, it is* with Concern, *and* not *for want of* Reſpect: *And, we are ſo far from being pleaſed with it, that it would have been a* Pleaſure *not to have found ourſelves under a* Neceſſity *of ſo doing.*

Yet, if we have choſen to conſider theſe Matters in ſuch a Light as ſhould be thought to need any *Apology, the* only one *we can perſuade ourſelves to offer is, That neither* we, *nor any* other *Men, have any Authority to put any other Meaning or Interpretation upon the* CHARTER *and* GRANTS, *but what is agreeable to* Common Senſe, *and to the* declared Deſign *and* Intention *of theſe* Royal Favours.

For

For this Reaſon it *is of no Importance for any to enquire, What, thro' the Strength of a* long Prepoſſeſſion, *may* have *been? But, What* ought *to have been the Sentiments of* others, *as to the Rights and Privileges of the* FREEMEN? *And the Reaſon is very plain; becauſe, in Matters of* this Nature, *it is not to be ſuppoſed, that there can be any* better *Evidence than the* CHARTER *and* GRANTS *themſelves, as to what they were* deſigned *to contain: And whatever has been* added *to them, by way of* By-Laws, *or* otherwiſe, *let it be done with never ſo great* Pretences *to Authority,* ALL ſuch Additions, *farther than they are* conſiſtent *with the* CHARTER, *the* general, *not the* partial *Good of the* Community, *and the* Laws of the Land, *are to be looked upon of no manner of Weight or Eſtimation, being only the* Invention *of thoſe who have added them. And we have been the more ſolicitous to obſerve and to impreſs* this *upon the Minds of the Fraternity; becauſe, we apprehend, it is the* only *Thing that can either effectually* prevent *or* cure *the Miſtakes and Uneaſineſs now ſubſiſting among us.*

The Charter *of the* 3d *and* 4th *of* PHILIP *and* MARY *(in which no Mention is made of any* OTHER OFFICERS) *and which is the* ONLY Charter *the* Stationers *Company have now ſubſiſting, has not only* abſolutely *fixed and ſettled the Right and Power of the* Election *of the* Maſter *and* Wardens, *in the* then *Body, or* FREEMEN at large, *but it has intailed* THAT RIGHT *on* their Succeſſors *for EVER. And therefore admitting it may have ever been in the* Inclination *of any of the Members, it never could have been in their* Power *to defeat or give up that Right, which was theirs* only for Life, *and which the* Charter *has fixed and entailed on* their Succeſſors *for EVER.*

We think there can be no Man of common Capacity, that conſiders the iniquitous Tendency of their BY-LAW *relating to the Election of* Maſter *and* Wardens, &c. *but muſt eaſily be aware it was contrived to* exclude *and* deprive, *as well as for the future to cajole, the* FREEMEN *from any Share in* theſe *Elections; which is not only* expreſly contrary *to the* Letter, *but to the* very Intent *of their* Charter, *and only tends to place an* abſo-

lute *and* tyrannical *Power in the Hands of* a few Men *over the* whole Society, *when the* Charter ITSELF *has placed the Right of Election in the Hands of the* FREEMEN at large. *

For which Reaſon the ſaid BY-LAW *muſt needs be* void *and* illegal; *for none of their* BY-LAWS *can be binding any farther than they are agreeable to* the Charter, *the* Laws of the Land, *and the* Good *and* Welfare *of the* Community IN GENERAL. *And ſince this* BY-LAW *is thus void and illegal* in itſelf, *it could not be in the Power of thoſe who ſign* BY-LAWS, *by ſigning*, to make it

---

* *The Right of electing the* MASTER *and* WARDENS,

By the Charter *is in the* Commonalty *or* Freemen.

VIII. AND that the foreſaid *Maſter* and *Keepers* or *Wardens* and the *Commonalty* of the ſaid Myſtery or Art of a *Stationer* of the foreſaid City, and THEIR SUCCESSORS, or the greater Part of them, being aſſembled lawfully and in a convenient Place, may *yearly* for ever, or OFTNER or SELDOMER, at ſuch Times and Places, within the ſaid City, as THEY ſhall think fit, *chuſe* from amongſt THEMSELVES, and make one Maſter and two Keepers or Wardens of the ſame Myſtery or Art of a *Stationer* of the foreſaid City, to *rule*, *govern* and *ſupervi ſe* the foreſaid Myſtery and Society, and all the Men of the ſame Myſtery, and their Buſineſs; and to REMOVE and DISPLACE the former Maſter and the former Keepers or Wardens out of thoſe Offices, as THEY ſhall ſee beſt.

By the *By-Law* is in the *Maſter*, *Wardens* and *Aſſiſtants*.

IT is likewiſe ordained, That the full and abſolute Power of Nomination and Election of Maſter, Wardens and Aſſiſtants, Members of the Livery, and of all other Officers of the ſaid Society, ſhall always be and remain as uſually heretofore hath been, only in the Maſter, Wardens and Aſſiſtants of the ſaid Society or the major Part of them in a Court or Courts of Aſſiſtants aſſembled; In which Nomination and Choices they ſhall obſerve the antient Ways, Time and Method of Nomination and Election which have heretofore been obſerved and uſed in the ſaid Society.

it otherwiſe; *and it is very plain they had not the* leaſt Intention *of* confirming THIS *or* ANY OTHER *of their* By-Laws, *any farther, than they ſhould be found to be* honeſt, reaſonable *and* legal, *having confirmed them with this* Reſtriction, **as far forth as in Law we may.** [*See the* CASE *of* STATIONERS Company *verſus* SALISBURY, *page* 26 *of the* Appendix.]

When the Freemen *are made thus* miſerable, *and find themſelves* expoſed *to the* ill Uſage *of* arbitrary Power *aſſumed* by their Officers, *it is natural they ſhould be ready, upon any Occaſion, to eaſe themſelves of* a Burden, *that ſits heavy upon them, and to wiſh and ſeek for the* Opportunity; *which, in the Weakneſs and Accidents of human Affairs, ſeldom delays long to offer itſelf.*

And tho' it is not a particular *Act of* Injuſtice *and* Oppreſſion *of here and there an unfortunate Man, that moves a* Community *to exert itſelf; yet, when there is a Perſuaſion, grounded* upon manifeſt Evidence, *that Deſigns have long been carrying on* againſt their Liberties, *and a long Train of* Abuſes, Prevarications *and* Artifices, *all tending the ſame way, effectually demonſtrate it, Who is to be blamed for it? Who can help it, if* our Officers, *who might have avoided it, bring themſelves under* this *Suſpicion? Are the* Freemen *to be blamed, becauſe they have the Senſe of rational Creatures, and can think of Things no otherwiſe than they* find *and* feel *them?*

And ſince the End *of Government is for the* Good of the Community, *we deſire to enquire, Which is beſt for the* Society, *that the* Freemen *ſhould be always expoſed to the* tyrannical Will *of their* own Officers, *or that the* Officers *ſhould be ſometimes liable to be* oppoſed?

It may chance, and it ſeems already to be concerted; *for, they that are* ſinking *are ready to catch at every Twig: It may chance, we ſay, that it will be endeavoured to enervate all our Arguments for Liberty, founded upon the* CHARTER, *by anſwering, that* bare *Tranſlations, be they never ſo judiciouſly done,* cannot *be of* equal *Dignity, nor give the* ſame *Satisfaction to an inquiſitive Reader, as the* Original *Text; which cannot*

but

but be more acceptable to the Learned, than the beſt Tranſlation; becauſe it puts it into their Power to make an Interpretation for themſelves, which otherwiſe muſt be taken upon Truſt. Therefore, to obviate this Objection, *the Original* Latin *of the* CHARTER *of* PHILIP *and* MARY *(which is the* ONLY Charter *the Company have* NOW *ſubſiſting) is publiſhed in the oppoſite Pages: And that of King* CHARLES II. *was intended to have been done ſo too; but when we conſidered, that* ALL, *which that* CHARTER *has in it* more *than is to be found in that of* PHILIP *and* MARY, *is revoked by* Act of Parliament, &c. *we thought a Tranſlation* only *was* ſufficient *to ſatisfy the Reader, as that* Charter *is now become rather Matter of* Curioſity *than* Uſe.

☞ The *Editor* deſires the Reader to obſerve, That, where he meets with *various Forms* of *Spelling* the ſame Words in the Grants of JAMES I. and in the Copy of the Grant or Conſtitution, which made the STATIONERS a *Livery-Company* of the City of LONDON, on Page 26, and ſome *miſ-nameings* of Perſons mentioned in the ſeveral Liſts of Names recorded in the Charter of PHILIP and MARY and its Confirmation by Queen ELIZABETH, He is to attribute the ſame *Variations* to the Negligence of the *original Ingroſer* of thoſe *Records*, and not to the *Ignorance* or *Inadvertency* of the Publiſher.

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THE

THE

CHARTER

GRANTED to the

Company of STATIONERS,

On the 4th Day of MAY,

Anno MDLVI. and

In the THIRD and FOURTH of

PHILIP and *MARY.*

BEING

A true Copy of the Original Record remaining in the Chapel of the Rolls,

AND

Examined by HENRY ROOKE, the Clerk thereof, on the *8th* of *December*, 1741.

In LATIN and ENGLISH.

THE

CHARTER

GRANTED to the

Company of STATIONERS,

On the 4th Day of MAY,

Anno MDLVI. and

In the THIRD and FOURTH of

PHILIP and *MARY.*

In LATIN.

REX et REGINA omnibus ad quos præsentes, &c. salutem.

SCIATIS, quod nos considerantes et manifeste percipientes quod nonnulli seditiosi et hæretici Libri Rythmi et Tractatus indies sunt editi, excusi et impressi per diversas scandalosas, schismaticas et hæreticas Personas, non solum moventes subditos et Ligeos Nostros ad Seditiones et Inobediencias contra Nos, Coronam et Dignitatem Nostras; verum etiam ad maximas et detestabiles Hæreses contra Fidem et sanam Catholicam Doctrinam Sanctæ Matris Ecclesiæ renovandas

The Contents of this Charter.

I. *The Preamble.* II. *The general Grant of Incorporation made to the Maſter, Wardens and Commonalty or* FREEMEN for ever. III. *Who is created the firſt* Maſter, *who the firſt* Wardens, *who the firſt* Freemen *or* Commonalty. IV. *The* Maſter, Wardens *and* Commonalty *or* Freemen *are made one Body corporate* for ever; *and* THEY jointly *are to have a* perpetual Succeſſion: *How* THEY *are to be ſtiled, and how to plead,* &c. *and to have a* Common Seal. V. *Not a Court of Aſſiſtants, but the Commonalty with the Maſter and Wardens empowered to make Laws.* VI. *Which Laws,* &c. *muſt in all Reſpects be agreeable to the Laws of the Land and to* this Charter. VII. *And the* Commonalty, *&c. ſhall meet for* ſuch Purpoſes *without Moleſtation.* VIII. *Not a Court of Aſſiſtants, but the Commonalty or* FREEMEN *from* among Themſelves for ever *ſhall* yearly, *or* oftener *or* ſeldomer *chuſe a Maſter and Wardens; and may* remove *or* diſplace *the Maſter and Wardens at* their Pleaſure. IX. *When the Maſter and upper Warden have a* double *Vote.* X. *The Maſter, Wardens and Commonalty may* ſell *and* purchaſe, *notwithſtanding the Statute of* Mortmain. XI. *Provided the Purchaſe don't exceed* 20l. per Ann. XII. *No Perſon to exerciſe the Art of Printing for Sale, unleſs he be free of the* Stationers *Company of the City of* LONDON; *the* Patentees *excepted.* XIII. *The Maſter and Wardens empowered to ſearch, and ſeize,* &c. *prohibited Books for the Uſe of the Company.* XIV. *And to impriſon Offenders for* three Months, *and to fine them* 5l. *for every Offence; one Moiety to the King, and the other Moiety to the Company.*

The KING *and* QUEEN *to all thoſe to whom theſe Preſents ſhall come,* GREETING.

I. KNOW YE that WE conſidering and manifeſtly perceiving That ſeveral Seditious and Heretical Books both in Verſe and Proſe are daily publiſhed, ſtamped and printed by divers ſcandalous, ſchiſmatical and heretical Perſons, not only exciting our Subjects and Liegemen to Sedition and Diſobedience againſt Us, our Crown and Dignity, but alſo to the Renewal and Propogating very great and deteſtable Hereſies againſt the Faith and ſound Catholick Doctrine The Preamble.

renovandas et movendas: Et, Remedium congruum in hac Parte provideri volentes, de Gratia nostra speciali, ac ex certa Scientia, et mero Motu Nostris, volumus, damus, et concedimus, pro Nobis, Hæredibus et Successoribus Nostris præfatæ Reginæ Dilectis et Fidelibus Ligeis Nostris,

(Magistro)

1 Thomæ Dockwray

(Custodibus)

2 Joanni Cawood
3 Henrico Coke

(Liberis Hominibus seu Communitati)

4 Willielmo Bonham
5 Richardo Waye
6 Simoni Coston
7 Reginaldo Wolf
8 Jacobo Hollyland
9 Stephano Keval
10 Joanni Turke
11 Nicholao Taberner
12 Michaeli Ubley
13 Joanni Jakes
14 Willielmo Ryddall
15 Joanni Hudson
16 Joanni Walley
17 Thomæ Duxwell
18 Anthonio Smith
19 Willielmo Powell
20 Richardo Jugge
21 Willielmo Serryes

(Liberis Hominibus seu Communitati)

22 Roberto Holder
23 Thomæ Purfot
24 Joanni Rogers
25 Willielmo Steward
26 Richardo Patchet
27 Nicholao Borman
28 Rogero Ireland
29 Richardo Crosse
30 Thomæ Powell
31 Anthonio Crofte
32 Richardo Hyll
33 Aleno Gamlyn
34 Henrico Norton
35 Richardo Lant
36 Henrico Luttell
37 Andreæ Hertes
38 Thomæ Devell
39 Joanni Case
40 Willielmo Hyll
41 Ric. Richardson
42 Egidio Hucke
43 Joanni Kynge
44 Joanni Fairebarne
45 Joanni Hyll
46 Petro Frenche
47 Richardo Harrison
48 Humfredo Powell
49 Joanni

of holy Mother, the Church; and being willing to provide a proper Remedy in this Caſe,

II. WE of our own ſpecial Favour, certain Knowledge and mere Motion do will, give and grant for Ourſelves, Our Heirs and Succeſſors of the above-mentioned Queen to Our beloved and faithful Liegemen, The general Grant of Incorporation

(The Maſter)

1 *Thomas Dockwray*

(The Keepers or Wardens)

2 *John Cawood*
3 *Henry Coke*

(The Freemen or Commonalty)

4 *William Bonham*
5 *Richard Waye*
6 *Simon Coſton*
7 *Reynold Wolf*
8 *James Hollyland*
9 *Stephen Keval*
10 *John Turke*
11 *Nicholas Taberner*
12 *Michael Ubley*
13 *John Jaques*
14 *William Ryddall*
15 *John Hudſon*
16 *John Walley*
17 *Thomas Duxwell*
18 *Anthony Smith*
19 *William Powell*
20 *Richard Jugge*
21 *William Serreys*

(The Freemen or Commonalty)

22 *Robert Holder*
23 *Thomas Purfot*
24 *John Rogers*
25 *William Steward*
26 *Richard Patchet*
27 *Nicholas Borman*
28 *Roger Ireland*
29 *Richard Croſſe*
30 *Thomas Powell*
31 *Anthony Crofte*
32 *Richard Hyll*
33 *Alen Gamlyn*
34 *Henry Norton*
35 *Richard Lant*
36 *Henry Luttell*
37 *Andrew Hertes*
38 *Thomas Devell*
39 *John Caſe*
40 *William Hyll*
41 *Richard Richardſon*
42 *Giles Hucke*
43 *John Kynge*
44 *John Fairbarne*
45 *John Hyll*
46 *Peter Frenche*
47 *Richard Harriſon*
48 *Humphry Powell*

49 *John*

(Liberis Hominibus seu Communitati)

49 Joanni Clerke
50 Willielmo Copland
51 Willielmo Marten
52 Edwardo Sutton
53 Thomæ Parker
54 Joanni Bonham
55 Joanni Gough
56 Joanni Daye
57 Joanni Whitney
58 Simoni Spylman
59 Williel. Baldwyn
60 Willielmo Coke
61 Joanni Kevell
62 Roberto Broke
63 Thomæ Sawyer
64 Carolo Walley
65 Thomæ Patenson
66 Thomæ Mershe
67 Richardo Tottell
68 Ranulpho Tyer
69 Joanni Burtofte
70 Willielmo Griffith
71 Edwardo Broune
72 Nicholao Clifton
73 Richardo Harvy
74 Jacobo Gunwell
75 Edwardo Cator
76 Joanni Kele
77 Thomæ Bylton
78 Thomæ Maskall
79 Willielmo Norton
80 Williel. Pyckeryng
81 Richardo Baldwyn
82 Richardo Grene
83 Thomæ Byden
84 Roberto Badborne
85 Joanni Alday
86 Roberto Blyth
87 Georgio Brodehead
88 Hugoni Cotisfurth
89 Richardo Wallis
90 Thomæ Gee
91 Ric. Kevell, jun.
92 Joanni Shereman
93 Thomæ Skeroll
94 Oweno ap Roger
95 Joanni Tysdale
96 Adamo Croke, &
97 Joanni Fox,

Liberis Hominibus Misteræ sive Artis Stationarii Civitatis Nostre Londonensis et suburbanorum ejusdem, quod de cetero sint in re, facto et nomine, Unum Corpus de se in perpetuum, et una Communitas perpetua corporata de uno Magistro & duobus Custodibus sive Guardianis in Communitate ejusdem Misteræ sive Artis Stationarii Civitatis prædictæ, et quod habeant Successionem perpetuam.

Et ulterius nos de Gratia nostra speciali ac ex certa Scientia et mero Motu nostris per Præ-

sentes

(The Freemen or Commonalty)

49 *John Clerke*
50 *William Copland*
51 *William Marten*
52 *Edward Sutton*
53 *Thomas Parker*
54 *John Bonham*
55 *John Gough*
56 *John Daye*
57 *John Whitney*
58 *Simon Spylman*
59 *William Baldwyn*
60 *William Coke*
61 *John Kevell*
62 *Robert Broke*
63 *Thomas Sawyer*
64 *Charles Walley*
65 *Thomas Patenſon*
66 *Thomas Merſhe*
67 *Richard Tottell*
68 *Ralph Tyer*
69 *John Burtofte*
70 *William Griffith*
71 *Edward Broune*
72 *Nicholas Clifton*
73 *Richard Harvy*
74 *James Gunwell*
75 *Edward Cator*
76 *John Kele*
77 *Thomas Bylton*
78 *Thomas Maſkall*
79 *William Norton*
80 *William Pyckeryng*
81 *Richard Baldwyn*
82 *Richard Grene*
83 *Thomas Beyden*
84 *Robert Badborne*
85 *John Alday*
86 *Robert Blyth*
87 *George Brodehead*
88 *Hugh Cotisfurth*
89 *Richard Wallis*
90 *Thomas Gee*
91 *Richard Kevell*, jun.
92 *John Shereman*
93 *Thomas Skeroll*
94 *Owen ap Roger*
95 *John Tyſdale*
96 *Adam Croke*, and
97 *John Fox*,

FREEMEN of the Myſtery or Art of a *Statio-ner* of Our City of *London* and Suburbs there-of, That from henceforth *They* may be in Deed, Fact and Name *one Body* of itſelf *for ever*, and *one Society* corporated *for ever* with one Maſter and two Keepers or Wardens in the Society of the ſame Myſtery or Art of a Stationer of the City aforeſaid, and that *They* may enjoy a *perpetual Succeſſion*.

Made to the Maſter, Wardens and Commonalty or Freemen *for ever*.

III. And further WE of Our own ſpecial Favour, certain Knowledge and mere Motion do by

ſentes Ordinamus, Creamus, Erigimus, Facimus et Conſtituimus prædictum Thomam Dockwray Magiſtrum ejuſdem Miſteræ ſive Artis Stationarii Civitatis prædictæ durante uno Anno, proxime ſequente, et prædictos Joannem Cawood et Henricum Cooke Cuſtodes ſive Guardianos ejuſdem Miſteræ ſive Artis Stationarii Civitatis prædictæ pro uno Anno proxime ſequente; et prædictos Willielmum Bonham, Richardum Waye, Simonem Coſton, Reginaldum Wolf, Jacobum Hollyland, Stephanum Kevall, Joannem Turke, Nicholaum Taberner, Michaelem Ubley, Joannem Jaques, Willielmum Ryddall, Joannem Hudſon, Joannem Walley, Thomam Duxwell, Anthonium Smith, Willielmum Powell, Richardum Jugge, Willielmum Serryes, Robertum Holder, Thomam Purfot, Joannem Rogers, Willielmum Steward, Richardum Patchet, Nicholaum Borman, Rogerum Ireland, Richardum Croſſe, Thomam Powell, Anthonium Crofte, Richardum Hyll, Alenum Gamlyn, Henericum Norton, Richardum Lant, Henricum Luttell, Andream Heſter, Thomam Devell, Joannem Caſe, Willielmum Hyll, Richardum Richardſon, Egidium Hucke, Joannem Kynge, Joannem Fayrbarne, Joannem Hyll, Petrum Frenche, Richardum Harryſon, Humfridum Powell, Joannem Clerke, Willielmum Copland, Willielmum Marten, Edwardum Sutton, Thomam Parker, Joannem Bonham, Joannem Gough, Joannem Day, Joannem Whitney, Simonem Spylman, Willielmum Baldwyn, Willielmum Coke, Joannem Kevall, Robertum Broke, Thomam Sawyer, Thomam Walley, Thomam Patenſon, Thomam Merſhe, Richardum Tottell, Ranulphum Tyer, Joannem Burtofte, Willielmum Griffith, Edwardum

by theſe Preſents ordain, create, erect, make and conſtitute the foreſaid THOMAS DOCKWRAY the *Maſter* of the ſame Myſtery or Art of a *Stationer* of the foreſaid City for one Year next enſuing; and the foreſaid JOHN CAWOOD and HENRY COOKE the *Keepers* or *Wardens* of the ſame Myſtery or Art of a *Stationer* of the foreſaid City for one Year next enſuing; and We by theſe Preſents Do make, create and conſtitute the foreſaid *William Bonham, Richard Way, Simon Coſton, Reynold Wolf, James Hollyland, Stephen Keval, John Turke, Nicholas Taberner, Michael Ubley, John Jaques, William Ryddall, John Hudſon, John Walley, Thomas Duxwell, Anthony Smith, William Powell, Richard Jugge, William Serryes, Robert Holder, Thomas Purfot, John Rogers, William Steward, Richard Patchet, Nicholas Borman, Roger Ireland, Richard Groſſe, Thomas Powell, Anthony Crofte, Richard Hyll, Alen Gamlyn, Henry Norton, Richard Lant, Henry Luttell, Andrew Hertes, Thomas Devell, John Caſe, William Hyll, Richard Richardſon, Giles Hucke, John Kynge, John Fayrbarne, John Hyll, Peter Frenche, Richard Harryſon, Humphry Powell, John Clerke, William Copland, William Marten, Edward Sutton, Thomas Parker, John Bonham, John Gough, John Daye, John Whitney, Simon Spylman, William Baldwyn, William Coke, John Keual, Robert Broke, Thomas Sawyer, Charles Walley, Thomas Patenſon, Thomas Merſhe, Richard Tottell, Ralph Tyer, John Burtofte, William Griffith, Edward Broune, Nicholas Clyfton, Richard Harvy, James Gunwell, Edward Cotor, John Kele, Thomas Bylton, Thomas Maſkall, William Norton, William Pyckeryng, Richard Baldwyn, Richard Grene, Thomas Beyden, Robert Badborne, John Alday, Robert Blythe,*

Who is created the firſt Maſter;

Who the firſt Wardens;

Who the firſt Freemen or Commonalty.

Broune, Nicholaum Clyfton, Richardum Harvy, Jacobum Gunwell, Edwardum Cator, Joannem Kele, Thomam Bylton, Thomam Maſkall, Willielmum Norton, Willielmum Pyckeryng, Richardum Baldwyn, Richardum Grene, Thomam Beyden, Robertum Badborne, Joannem Alday, Robertum Blyth, Georgium Brodehead, Hugonem Cotisfurth, Richardum Malleys, Thomam Gee, Richardum Kevell, *jun.* Joannem Shereman, Thomam Skeroll, Owenum ap Roger, Joannem Tyſdale, Adamum Croke, *et* Joannem Foxe, **Communitatem ejuſdem Miſteræ ſive Artis Stationarii Civitatis prædictæ facimus, creamus et conſtituimus per Præſentes.**

Et ulterius Ordinamus, Creamus, Erigimus, Facimus et Conſtituimus per Præſentes prædictos Magiſtrum, Cuſtodes et Communitatem in Re et Nomine unum Corpus de ſe in perpetuum, et unam Communitatem in perpetuum corporatam de uno Magiſtro et duobus Cuſtodibus ſive Guardianis et Communitate ejuſdem Miſteræ ſive Artis Stationarii Civitatis Londonenſis **prædictæ. Ac ipſos Magiſtrum, Cuſtodes ſive Guardianos et Communitatem Incorporamus, et Corpus corporatum per Nomen Magiſtri et Cuſtodum ſive Guadianorum et Communitatis Miſteræ ſive Artis Stationarii Civitatis** Londonenſis **in perpetuum duraturum realiter, et ad plenum Volumus, Concedimus, Creamus, Erigimus, Ordinamus, Facimus, Declaramus et Conſtituimus per Præſentes: Et quod iidem Magiſter et Cuſtodes ſive Guardiani et Communitas de cetero habeant Succeſſionem perpetuam: Et quod ipſe Magiſter et Cuſtodes ſive Guardiani et Communitas et Succeſſores ſui in perpetuum nuncupentur,**

appellentur

George Brodehead, *Hugh Cotisfurth*, *Richard Malleys*, *Thomas Gee*, *Richard Kevell*, jun. *John Shereman*, *Thomas Skeroll*, *Owen ap Roger*, *John Tyſdale*, *Adam Croke*, and *John Foxe*, the *Commonalty* of the ſame Myſtery or Art of a *Stationer* of the City aforeſaid.

IV. And further WE ordain, create, erect, make and conſtitute by theſe Preſents the foreſaid *Maſter* and *Keepers* or *Wardens* and *Commonalty* ONE BODY in Deed and Name of themſelves *for ever*, and ONE SOCIETY *for ever* corporate with *one Maſter* and *two Keepers* or *Wardens* and the *Commonalty* of the ſame Myſtery or Art of a *Stationer* of the City of LONDON aforeſaid. And WE do incorporate the ſame *Maſter*, *Keepers* or *Wardens* and *Commonalty*, and by theſe Preſents We do really and fully will, grant, create, erect, ordain, make, declare and conſtitute the ſaid *Maſter* and *Keepers* or *Wardens* and *Commonalty* a Body corporate to continue *for ever* by the Name of the *Maſter* and *Keepers* or *Wardens* and *Commonalty* of the Myſtery or Art of a *Stationer* of the City of LONDON: And that the ſame Maſter and Keeper or Wardens and Commonalty may from henceforward have a *perpetual Succeſſion*: And that the ſame Maſter and Keepers or Wardens and Commonalty and THEIR SUCCESSORS *for ever* may be ſtiled, entitled

The Maſter, Wardens and Commonalty are made *one Body* corporate *for ever*;

And they *jointly* have *a perpetual Succeſſion.*

appellentur et vocentur per Nomen Magistri et Custodum sive Guardianorum et Communitatis Misteræ sive Artis Stationarii Civitatis Londonensis; et per Nomen illud prositare et imprositari, ac respondere et responderi valeant et possent in omnibus et singulis Materiis, Sectis et Querelis, Actionibus, Demandis et Causis coram quibuscunque Judicibus et Justiciariis, et in quibuscunque Curiis et Locis: Et habeant sigillum Commune pro Rebus et Negotiis suis deserviturum et agendum, et pro sigillatione omnium et singulorum Factorum et Scriptorum suorum Res et Negotia sua quovis Modo tangentium sive concernentium.

Et ipsi Magister et Custodes sive Guardiani et Communitas et Successores sui de tempore in tempus facere possint et ordinare et stabilire pro Bono et Sano Regimine et Gubernatione Liberorum Hominum Artis sive Misteræ prædictæ ac Communitatis prædictæ Ordinationes, Provisiones et Statuta quoties eis videbitur fore opportunum et idoneum.

Dummodo Ordinationes, Provisiones et Statuta illa non sint in aliquo repugnantia seu contraria Legibus aut Statutis hujus Regni nostri Angliæ, aut in Prejudicium Reipublicæ ejusdem Regni Nostri.

Et quod Ipsi et Successores sui in perpetuum Congregationes de Seipsis licitas et honestas ad Statuta et Ordinationes hujusmodi et alias Res pro Utilitate ejusdem Misteræ sive Artis, ac Communitatis ejusdem: et pro aliis licitis Causis in Forma prædicta totiens quotiens eis placuerit facere valeant et possint licite et impune absque Molestatione vel Inquietatione Nostri vel Heredum seu Successorum nostræ prædictæ Reginæ, vel alicujus alius.

Ac

entitled and called by the Name of the *Maſter* and *Keepers* or *Wardens* and *Commonalty* of the Myſtery or Art of a *Stationer* of the City of LONDON: And that they may be able to plead and to be impleaded, to anſwer and to be anſwered by *that Name* in all and ſingular Matters, Suits and Plaints, Actions, Demands and Cauſes before any of Our Judges and Juſtices whomſoever in any Courts or Places whatſoever: And that they may have a *Common Seal* to ſerve and to be uſed for their Affairs and Buſineſs; and for the ſealing of all and ſingular their Deeds and Writings any wiſe touching or concerning their Affairs and Buſineſs.

How they are to be called,

And how to plead, &c.

And to have a Common Seal.

V. And that the *ſame Maſter* and *Keepers* or *Wardens* and *Commonalty* and THEIR SUCCESSORS may from Time to Time make and ordain and eſtabliſh for the GOOD and well-ordering and governing of the FREEMEN of the foreſaid Art or Myſtery and of the foreſaid SOCIETY, *Ordinances*, *Proviſions* and *Laws* as often as THEY ſhall ſee proper and convenient;

Not a Court of Aſſiſtants, but the Commonalty with the Maſter and Wardens empowered to make Laws, &c.

VI. PROVIDED that *thoſe* Ordinances, Proviſions and Laws be in no wiſe *repugnant* or *contrary* to the Laws and Statutes of this Our Kingdom of ENGLAND, or in *Prejudice* to the Common-weal of Our ſame Kingdom.

Which muſt be in all Reſpects *agreeable* to the Laws of the Land and to this *Charter*.

VII. And that *the ſame* and THEIR SUCCESSORS *for ever* are enabled and may lawfully and ſafely without Moleſtation or Diſturbance of Us or the Heirs or Succeſſors of Our foreſaid Queen, or of any other Perſon, hold, as often as they pleaſe, lawful and honeſt Meetings of *Themſelves* for the enacting ſuch Laws and Ordinances, and tranſacting other Buſineſs for the *Benefit* of the ſame Myſtery or Art, and of the ſame Society, and for other lawful Cauſes in the Manner aforeſaid.

And the *Commonalty*, &c. ſhall meet for ſuch Purpoſes without Moleſtation of any Perſon.

VIII. And

Ac quod Prædicti Magister et Custodes sive Guardiani ac Communitas dictæ Misteræ sive Artis Stationarii Civitatis Prædictæ et Successores sui, aut Major Pars licite et in Loco conveniente congregati annuatim in perpetuum, vel sæpius seu rarius talibus Temporibus et Locis infra Civitatem prædictam (quibus ipsis placuerit) de Seipsis eligere possint et facere unum Magistrum et duos Custodes sive Guardianos ejusdem Misteræ sive Artis Stationarii Civitatis prædictæ ad Regendam, Gubernandam et Supervidendam Misteram et Communitatem predictam et omnes Homines ejusdem Misteræ, et negotia eorundem, et anteriorem Magistrum, et anteriores Custodes sive Guardianos suos amovere et extra officia illa extraponere, prout eis melius videbitur.

Et quod si, et quotiens contigerit in aliqua Electione quod Magister et Custodes sive Gardiani et Communitas prædicta sint equales in una Voce, una Pars contra aliam in tali Electione, quod tunc et totiens Magister Misteræ prædictæ (si aliquis Magister tunc fuerit) vel senior Custos sive Guardianus Misteræ illius (si aliquis Magister Misteræ illius tunc non fuerit) habeat duas Voces in talibus Electionibus.

Et quod Magister et Custodes sive Guardiani et Communitas Misteræ prædictæ et Successores sui pro tempore existentes in perpetuum sint Personæ habiles et capaces in Lege tam ad dandas, concedendas et dimittendas Terras, et Tenementa, Bona et Catalla sua, quam ad perquirendas, possidendas, capiendas et recipiendas sibi et successoribus suis Terras Tenementa, Possessiones, Bona, Catalla et Hæreditamenta habenda, gaudenda, et possidenda sibi et successoribus suis in perpetuum, Statuto de

Terris

VIII. And that the foreſaid *Maſter* and *Keepers* or *Wardens* and the *Commonalty* of the ſaid Myſtery or Art of a *Stationer* of the foreſaid City, and THEIR SUCCESSORS, or the greater Part of THEM being aſſembled lawfully and in a convenient Place, may *yearly* for ever, or OFTNER or SELDOMER, at ſuch Times and Places within the ſaid City, as THEY ſhall think fit, *chuſe* from amongſt THEMSELVES, and make one Maſter and two Keepers or Wardens of the ſame Myſtery or Art of a *Stationer* of the foreſaid City, to *rule*, *govern* and *ſuperviſe* the foreſaid Myſtery and Society, and all the Men of the ſame Myſtery, and their Buſineſs; and to REMOVE and DISPLACE the former Maſter and the former Keepers or Wardens out of thoſe Offices, as THEY ſhall ſee beſt.

The Commonalty or *Freemen* from amongſt *Themſelves* ſhall *yearly*, or *oftner* or *ſeldomer* chuſe a Maſter and Wardens;

And may *remove* and *diſplace* the Maſter and Wardens *at their* Pleaſure.

IX. And that if, and as often as, it ſhall happen in any Election that the Maſter and Keepers or Wardens and the foreſaid Commonalty are *equal* in Votes, one Part againſt another in ſuch an Election, That then and ſo often the Maſter of the foreſaid Myſtery, if there ſhall be then any Maſter, or the upper Keeper or Warden of that Myſtery, if there ſhall then be no Maſter, may have *two Votes* in ſuch Elections.

When the Maſter has a *double Vote.*

When the upper Warden has a *double Vote.*

X. And that the *Maſter* and *Keepers* or *Wardens* and *Commonalty* of the foreſaid Myſtery, and THEIR SUCCESSORS for the Time being ſhall be deemed *fit* and *able Perſons* in Law as well to give, grant and to let their Lands and Tenements, Poſſeſſions, Goods and Chattels, as to purchaſe, poſſeſs, take and receive for themſelves and their Succeſſors, Lands, Tenements, Poſſeſſions, Goods, Chattels and Inheritances to be had, enjoyed and poſſeſſed by themſelves and their Succeſſors for ever, the

The Maſter, Wardens and Commonalty may *ſell* and *purchaſe*,

Terris et Tenementis ad Manum mortuam non ponendis edito, aut aliquo Statuto, Actu vel Ordinatione in Contrarium facto vel faciendo non Obstante;

Ita quod Dicta Terræ, Tenementa et Hereditamenta sic per eos perquirenda et recipienda sint infra dictam Civitatem Nostram Londonensem, vel Suburbia, aut Libertates ejusdem Civitatis; et ita quod annuum Valorem Viginti Librarum legalis Monetæ Angliæ non excedant ullo modo.

Propterea Volumus, Concedimus, Ordinamus et Constituimus pro Nobis et Successoribus nostræ præfatæ Reginæ, quod nulla Persona infra hoc Regnum Nostrum Angliæ vel Dominia ejusdem practizabit vel exercet per se vel per Ministros suos, servientes suos, seu per aliquam aliam personam, artem sive Misteram imprimendi vel excudendi aliquem Librum vel aliquam Rem vendendam seu Barganizandam infra hoc Regnum nostrum Angliæ vel Dominia ejusdem, nisi eadem Persona tempore Impressionis sive Excussionis suæ prædictæ sit vel erit una de Communitate prædictæ Misteræ sive Artis Stationarii Civitatis prædictæ, vel inde habeat Licentiam nostram vel Hæredum seu Successorum nostræ præfatæ Reginæ.

Insuper Volumus, Concedimus, Ordinamus et Constituimus pro Nobis, Hæredibus et Successoribus nostræ præfatæ Reginæ, præfatis Magistro, Custodibus sive Guardianis et Communitati Misteræ sive Artis Stationarii Civitatis Londonensis prædictæ et Successoribus suis in perpetuum quod bene licebit Magistro et Custodibus sive Guardianis prædictis et Successoribus suis pro tempore existentibus tam Scrutinium facere quotienscunque eis licue-

rit

the Statute againſt putting Lands and Tenements in *Mortmain*, or any other Statute, Act or Ordinance to the contrary Notwithſtanding; Notwithſtanding the Statute of *Mortmain* &c.

XI. PROVIDED that the ſaid Lands, Tenements and Inheritances ſo to be purchaſed and to be poſſeſſed by Them, be within Our ſaid City of LONDON or Suburbs, or the Liberties of the ſame City; and ſo that they do not in any wiſe exceed the *yearly* Value of *twenty Pounds* of lawful Money of ENGLAND. Provided the Purchaſe does not exceed the yearly Value of 20 *l.*

XII. Moreover WE will, grant, ordain and conſtitute for Ourſelves and the Succeſſors of Our foreſaid Queen that no Perſon within this Our Kingdom of ENGLAND or Dominions thereof, either by Himſelf or by his Journeymen, Servants or by any other Perſon ſhall *practiſe* or *exerciſe* the Art or Myſtery of printing or ſtamping any Book or any Thing to be ſold or to be bargained for within this Our Kingdom of ENGLAND or the Dominions thereof, unleſs the ſame Perſon is or ſhall be one of the Society of the foreſaid Myſtery or Art of a *Stationer* of the City aforeſaid at the Time of his foreſaid printing or ſtamping; or has for that Purpoſe obtained Our *Licence* or the *Licence* of the Heirs and Succeſſors of our foreſaid Queen. No Perſon to exerciſe the Art of Printing for Sale, except he be free of the Stationers Company of London; The Patentees excepted.

XIII. Moreover WE will, grant, ordain and conſtitute for Ourſelves, the Heirs and Succeſſors of our ſaid Queen, to the foreſaid Maſter, Keepers or Wardens and the Commonalty of the Myſtery or Art of a *Stationer* of the foreſaid City of LONDON, and to THEIR SUCCESSORS *for ever*, That the foreſaid *Maſter* and *Keepers* or *Wardens* and *their Succeſſors* for the Time being ſhall very lawfully as well *ſearch*, as often as They pleaſe, any Place, Shop, The Maſter and Wardens empowered to ſearch,

rit in aliquo Loco, Shopa, Domo, Camera vel Edificio alicujus Excussoris, Impressoris, Ligatoris seu Venditoris Librorum quorumcunque infra Regnum Nostrum Angliæ vel Dominia ejusdem de vel pro aliquibus Libris vel Rebus Impressis, excussis sive imprimendis vel excudendis, quam seizire, capere, habere, comburere, vel in usus proprios Communitatis prædictæ convertere omnes et singulos illos Libros et illas Res, qui vel quæ sint vel erunt impressa sive excussa contra Formam alicujus Statuti, Actus vel Proclamationis factæ vel fiendæ.

Ac quod si aliqua Persona practizabit seu exerceat Artem sive Misteram prædictam contra Formam prædictam, aut disturbabit, negabit vel impediet prædictos Magistrum et Custodes sive Guardianos pro tempore existentes, vel eorum aliquem pro tempore existentem, ad prædictum scrutinium faciendum vel ad seiziendum, capiendum aut comburendum prædictos Libros aut Res aut eorum seu earum aliquem sive aliquam contra Formam alicujus Statuti, Actus vel Proclamationis Impressam sive Excussam, vel imprimendam sive excudendam, quod tunc prædicti Magister et Custodes sive Guardiani pro tempore existentes imprisonabunt vel imprisonabit seu ad Gaolam committent vel committet quamlibet talem Personam sic, practizantem vel exercentem Artem sive Misteram prædictam contra Formam prædictam, aut sic, ut præfertur, disturbans, negans, vel impediens ibidem permansurus sub Manucaptione per spatium trium mensium; ac quod eadem persona sic practizans vel exercens Artem sive Misteram prædictam contra Formam prædictam, aut sic, ut præfertur, disturbans, negans, vel impediens, forisfaciat pro qualibet tali Practizatione vel

Exercitatione

Houſe, Chamber or Building of any Stamper, Printer, Binder or Seller of any manner of Books within Our Kingdom of ENGLAND or Dominions thereof, concerning or for any Books or Things printed, ſtamped or to be printed or ſtamped, as *ſeize*, *take away*, *have*, *burn* or *convert* to the proper Uſe of the *ſaid Society* all and ſingular thoſe Books and thoſe Things, which are or ſhall be printed or ſtamped contrary to the Form of any Statute, Act or Proclamation made or to be made.

And ſeize, &c. prohibited Books for the Uſe of the Company,

XIV. And that, if any Perſon ſhall practiſe or exerciſe the foreſaid Art or Myſtery contrary to the Form above deſcribed; or ſhall *diſturb*, *refuſe* or *hinder* the foreſaid Maſter and Keepers or Wardens for the Time being, or any One of them for the Time being to make the foreſaid Search, or to ſeize, take away or burn the foreſaid Books or Things, which are, or any one of which has been printed or ſtamped, or are to be printed or ſtamped contrary to the Form of any Statute, Act or Proclamation, That then the foreſaid Maſter or Keepers or Wardens for the Time being ſhall *impriſon* or *ſend to Gaol*, or either of them ſhall *impriſon* or *ſend to Gaol* every ſuch Perſon ſo practiſing or exerciſing the foreſaid Art or Myſtery contrary to the Form aforeſaid, or ſo that, as aforeſaid, the Diſturber, Refuſer or Hinderer ſhall there remain without Bail or Mainprize for the Space of *three Months*; and That the ſame Perſon ſo practiſing the Art or Myſtery aforeſaid contrary to the ſaid Form, or ſo that, as aforeſaid, the Diſturber, Refuſer or Hinderer ſhall *pay* or *cauſe to be paid* for *every* ſuch practiſing or exerciſing as aforeſaid, contrary to the ſaid

And to imprifon Offenders

For three Months,

And to fine them 5 *l.* for every Offence:

Exercitatione prædicta contra Formam prædictam, et pro qualibet tali Disturbatione, Negatione vel Impedimento Centum Solidos Legalis Monetæ Angliæ, Dimidium inde Nobis, Heredibus et Successoribus Nostris præfatæ Reginæ, et aliud Dimidium inde præfato Magistro, Custodibus sive Guardianis et Communitati. In cujus Rei, &c. T. R. &c R. apud Westm. quarto Die Maii.

Per Breve de privato Sigillo, &c.

Agrees with the *Original Record*, remaining in the Chapel of the *Rolls*, and is examined by me this *Eighth* Day of *December*, 1741.

Henry Rooke, Clerk of the *Rolls*.

ſaid Form, and for every ſuch Diſturbance, Let or Hinderance, *one hundred Shillings* of lawful Money of ENGLAND, one Moiety thereof to Us, our Heirs and Succeſſors of the foreſaid Queen, and the other Moiety thereof to the foreſaid Maſter, Keepers or Wardens and Commonalty, *&c.* In Witneſs whereof, *The King* and *Queen* at *Weſtminſter*, *May* 4.

One Moiety to the King, and one Moiety to the Company.

By Writ of Privy Seal, *&c.*

Tranſlated from the Original Latin *Record, remaining in the Chapel of the* Rolls, *as it was examined on the* 8*th of* December, 1741, *by*

Henry Rooke, *Clerk of the Rolls.*

☞ The Privileges to *chuſe* their proper *Officers*, to *make Laws* for the *Good* and *well governing* of the Company, to *remove* and *diſplace* bad *Officers* at *their Pleaſure*, &c. granted to the *Freemen* of the Company of *Stationers* of the City of LONDON by King PHILIP and Queen MARY, had been found ſo *juſt* and *agreeable* to the *Laws* of the Land, the *Liberties* of the Subject, and in particular ſo *neceſſary* to the *well-being* of the ſaid Company of *Stationers*, That Queen ELIZABETH, of Glorious Memory, upon her firſt Coming to the Crown did, by her Letters Patents, alſo *renew* and *confirm* the foregoing Charter, in the following Manner.

REGINA ad quos præſentes, &c. ſalutem.

INSPEXIMUS Literas Patentes Domini Philippi Regis et Dominæ Mariæ nuper Reginæ Angliæ præcharisſimæ Sororis Noſtræ Magiſtro, Cuſtodibus ſive Guardianis et Communitati Miſteræ ſive Artis Stationarii Civitatis Noſtræ Londonenſis nuper conceſſas apud Weſtmonaſterium quarto die Maii Annis Regnorum ſuorum tertio et quarto;

NOS autem Literas prædictas ac omnia et ſingula in eiſdem contenta rata habentes et grata, ea pro Nobis, Heredibus et Succeſſoribus Noſtris, quantum in Nobis eſt, acceptamus et approbamus, ac dilectis Noſtris Reginaldo Wolfe nunc Magiſtro Miſteræ ſive Artis Stationarii prædictæ, et Michaeli Lobley et Thomæ Duxwell Cuſtodibus ſive Guardianis eiuſdem Miſteræ et Succeſſoribus ſuis, ratificamus et confirmamus prout Charte et Literæ prædictæ rationabiliter in ſe teſtantur. In cujus Rei, &c. T. R. apud WESTMONASTERIUM decimo Die Novembris Anno Regni Noſtri primo.

Agrees with the *Original Record*, remaining in the Chapel of the *Rolls*, and is examined by me this *Tenth* Day of *December*, 1741.

HENRY ROOKE, Clerk of the *Rolls*.

The Queen to whom theſe Preſents, &c. GREETING.

WE have ſeen the Letters Patents of the Lord PHILIP, King, and the Lady MARY late Queen of ENGLAND Our moſt dearly beloved Siſter, to the *Maſter*, *Keepers* or *Wardens* and *Commonalty* of the Myſtery or Art of a *Stationer* of Our City of LONDON, lately granted at WESTMINSTER on the fourth Day of *May*, in the 3*d* and 4*th* Years of their Reigns:

☞ *Here Queen* ELIZABETH *recites the* CHARTER verbatim, *as it was granted by* PHILIP *and* MARY, *and is now printed in the preceeding Pages, and then confirms the ſame in the following Words.*

And WE ratifying and allowing the foreſaid Letters, and *all* and *every* thing contained therein, Do, as much as in Us lies, *accept* and *approve* Them for Ourſelves, Our Heirs and Succeſſors, and do *ratify* and *confirm* Them to Our beloved *Reynold Wolfe*, now the Maſter of the foreſaid Myſtery or Art of a *Stationer*, and *Michael Lobley* and *Thomas Duxwell* the Keepers or Wardens of the ſame Myſtery, and to their Succeſſors, in ſuch manner as the foreſaid recited Charter and Letters do reaſonably in themſelves teſtify. In witneſs whereof, *&c.* The Queen at WESTMINSTER, on the tenth Day of *November*, and in the firſt Year of Our Reign.

Tranſlated from the Original Latin *Record, remaining in the Chapel of the* Rolls, *as it was examined on the* 10*th of* December, 1741, *by*

Henry Rooke, *Clerk of the Rolls.*

Beſides

Beſides *this Confirmation* by Queen ELIZABETH now recited, the foregoing *Charter* by PHILIP and MARY was *exemplified* in the 19th Year of the Reign of King CHARLES II. on the 10th of *Auguſt*, A. D. 1667, at the Requeſt of *Humphrey Robinſon*, the then Maſter, and *Evan Tyler* and *Richard Royſton*, the then Wardens of the Company of *Stationers*.

Exemplified in the Year 1667.

And the ſaid *Charter* was again *exemplified* on the 13th of *October*, A. D. 1684, at the Requeſt of *Roger Norton*, the then Maſter, and *Henry Hills* and *James Cotteral*, the then Wardens of the ſaid Company of *Stationers*.

Exemplified in the Year 1684.

N. B. The aboveſaid *Charter* granted by PHILIP and MARY, and thus *confirmed* and *exemplified*, is the ONLY *Charter* the *Stationers Company* have NOW ſubſiſting. And *this Charter* was a *ſecond* Time confirmed ſo lately as in the 36th Year of King *Charles* II. though at that Time it was clogged with ſeveral *unjuſt* and *illegal* Additions, contrived to pave the Way to *arbitrary* Power. But *all* thoſe *oppreſſive Additions* have been ſince repealed and declared *null* and *void* by a ſpecial Act of Parliament in the ſecond Year of King WILLIAM and Queen MARY; which ſame Act does *again* abſolutely *confirm* the *Original Charter* granted by PHILIP and MARY, in the following Words.

It is the *only* CHARTER of the *Stationers*.

Confirmed by K. *Charles* II.

Confirmed by an Act of Parliament, 2 *W.* & *M.*

Companies reſtored, 2 *W.* & *M.*

'And be it enacted * by the Authority afore-
'ſaid, That all and every of the ſeveral Com-
'panies and Corporations of the ſaid City ſhall
'from henceforth ſtand and be incorporated by

* In an Act for reverſing the Judgment in a *Quo Warranto* againſt the City of *London*, and for reſtoring the City of *London* to its ancient Rights and Privileges.

'ſuch

'such Name and Names, and in such sort and 'manner, as they respectively were at the Time 'of the said Judgment given, and every of Them 'are hereby restored to all and every the Lands, 'Tenements, Hereditaments, Rights, Titles, 'Estates, Liberties, Powers, Privileges, Pre-'cedencies and Immunities, which they law-'fully had and enjoyed at the Time of giving the 'said Judgment; and that as well all Surren-'ders, as Charters, Letters Patents and Grants 'for NEW Incorporating any of the said Com-'panies, or touching or concerning any of their 'Liberties, Privileges or Franchises, made or 'granted by the said late King JAMES, or by the 'said King CHARLES the Second, since the gi-'ving of the said Judgment, shall be void, and 'are hereby declared null and void, to all In-'tents and Purposes whatsoever.'

2 *W.* & *M.* sess. 1. cap. 8. § 14.

How and when the Stationers were constituted a Livery-Company.

And since it is observed that *several* of the FREEMEN have been so far imposed upon as to believe that the *Institution* of the *Livery* is a Privilege that had its Rise from some Powers contained in the Charter; and since it may be suspected that WE have suppressed *those pretended Powers*, it is for these Reasons thought *necessary* to lay before the World a Copy of the *Original Grant* or *Constitution*, which made the STATIONERS a *Livery-Company* of the City of LONDON, attested by Mr. JACKSON the late *Town-Clerk*; as also the *Attestation* of Mr. COLE the *present Clerk* to the said Company of *Stationers*, concerning the *same*, and the *Numbers* of the *Livery*, as it stood in the Year 1724, pursuant to an Order of the Hon. House of Commons, whilst a Bill was de-

pending *for regulating Elections within the City of London.*

A true *Copy of the* Grant *or* Conſtitution, *which made the* STATIONERS *a* Livery-Company *of the City of* LONDON.

'HENSELL, MAYOR.

'*Jovis* 1° *Die Februarii, Anno ſecundo Dominæ* 'ELIZÆ *Reginæ*, &c.

A Copy of the Grant or Conſtitution.

Item. 'IT was this Day Ordered and Agreed, 'at the earneſt Suit and Prayer of 'John Cawood and divers other ſaid Perſons be- 'ing FREEMEN of this City in the Fellowſhip 'of the *Stationers*, that the ſame Fellowſhip 'from henceforth ſhall be permitted and ſuf- 'fered to have, uſe and wear a *Livery* and '*Livery-Hood* in ſuch *decent* and *comly-wiſe* and '*order* as the other Companies and Fellowſhips 'of this City, after their Degrees, do commonly 'uſe and wear; and that they the ſaid *Stationers* 'ſhall cauſe *all* ſuch, and *as many* of their ſaid 'Fellowſhip *as conveniently may be able*, to pre- 'pare and make ready the ſame *Liverys* with 'Speed, ſo that they may from henceforth at- 'tend and wait upon the *Lord Mayor* of this 'City at all common Shews hereafter to be 'made by the Cityzens of this Cytie, in ſuch and 'lyke manner and ſorte as the other Cityzens of 'the ſayd Cytie, for the Honour of the ſame 'Cytie of long Tyme paſt, have done and yet 'dayley do, as Occaſion ſhall require.'

ALL *Freemen* have a Right to *demand* the *Livery.*

JACKSON.

The

The Atteſtation *of the Truth of the foreſaid Copy by Mr.* NATHANAEL COLE, Clerk *to the Company of* STATIONERS.

Atteſted by Mr. *Cole.*

'IN Obedience to an Order of the Hon. 'Houſe of Commons of the 3d of this In- 'ſtant *February*, I the under-written Clerk of 'the Company of *Stationers* of the City of 'LONDON have annexed a *true* Copy of an 'Order of the Court of Aldermen, taken from 'the Books of the City of LONDON kept in 'the Town-Clerk's Office, bearing Date the 1ſt 'Day of *February*, in the ſecond Year of the 'Reign of the late Queen ELIZABETH, which 'Order is the particular Grant or Conſtitution 'by which the ſaid Company of *Stationers* were 'made a *Livery-Company* of the ſaid City of 'LONDON: And I have, in further Obedience 'to the ſaid Order, inſpected the Books of the 'ſaid Company of *Stationers* of LONDON, and 'do find that the preſent *Numbers* of the ſaid 'Company's *Liverymen* are *Two Hundred* and '*Fourteen.* Witneſs my Hand this 6th Day 'of *February*, 1724.

The Numbers of the Liverymen of the Stationers Company in 1724.

'NATH. COLE, Clerk *to the Company* 'of Stationers, LONDON.'

Liverymen to be Aſſiſtants according to their Seniority.

To this Conſtitution we ſhall now add the *Proceedings* againſt the *Maſter* and *Wardens* of the *Stationers* Company before the *Right Hon. the Lord* MAYOR and *Court of* ALDERMEN for their *neglecting* or *refuſing* to admit a *Senior* LIVERYMAN into the *Court of Aſſiſtants*, and for admitting his *Junior* into the *ſaid* Court to his Prejudice; together with the

Form of the *Commitment* of the ſaid *Maſter* and *Wardens* to NEWGATE for the ſaid Offence; it being not only *repugnant* to Reaſon and Honeſty, but alſo *contrary* to the ancient *Cuſtom* and *Uſage* of the City of LONDON, as they are recorded in the *Town-Clerk's* Office, and atteſted by Mr. MAN the preſent Clerk thereof, as follows.

'PILKINGTON, MAYOR.

'*Martis* XVI *Die Junii*, 1691, *Annoq; RR:*
'*& Reginæ* Wilſi. *et* Mariæ *Angliæ, &c.*
'*Tertio.*

The Order of Court to admit GILES SUSSEX to be an *Aſſiſtant according to his Seniority.*

'UPON the humble Petition of GILES SUSSEX, Citizen and Stationer of London, ſetting forth, that although he hath been upon the Livery theſe twenty Years, and upon his Admiſſion thereunto paid the Sum of *twenty Pounds*, and hath long ſince been called to the Office of RENTER *Warden* of the ſaid Company, for which he further paid the Sum of *four and twenty Pounds*, yet the *Maſter*, *Wardens* and *Aſſiſtants* of the ſaid Company have NEGLECTED or REFUSED to call him upon the *Aſſiſtants*, but upon any Vacancy elected others of the Livery, who are *his Juniors* to be of the *Aſſiſtants*, to his great Prejudice: This Court having *fully heard* the *Petitioner*, and alſo the *Maſter* and *Wardens* of the ſaid Company, *(who being aſked what Objection they had againſt the Petitioner, now declared they had no Exception to him)* did UNANIMOUSLY think fit and order that the ſaid GILES SUSSEX be forthwith admitted one of the Aſſiſtants of the ſaid Company, and that he take his Place among

'among the said Assistants *according to his* SENIORITY *in the Livery*; and that the 'Master and Wardens of the said Company 'do within a *Week* or *ten Days* next coming 'call a Court of Assistants for the said Company, and admit the said GILES SUSSEX accordingly.'

MAN.

'STAMPE, MAYOR.

'*Martis* xii *Die Julii*, 1692, *Annoq;* *RR*' '*& Reginæ* Willi. *&* Mariæ *Angliæ*, *&c.* '*Quarto.*

'IT is ordered, that the Master and Wardens of the Company of Stationers do appear before this Court on this Day sevenight, 'and shew Cause why they refuse to elect and 'admit *Giles Sussex*, a Member of their Company, one of the Assistants of the same Company, pursuant to the Order of this Court of 'the Sixteenth of *June*, One Thousand, Six Hundred, Ninety-one. And it is likewise 'ordered, that they then produce to this Court 'their Charter and By-Laws.'

The Order of Court to shew Cause why GILES SUSSEX was *not* admitted.

MAN.

'STAMPE, MAYOR.

'*Martis* xix *Die Julii*, 1692, *Annoq;* *RR*' '*& Reginæ* Willi. *&* Mariæ *Angliæ*, *&c.* '*Quarto.*

'WHEREAS upon the Sixteenth Day 'of June, One Thousand, Six Hundred, Ninety-one, it was by this Court ordered,

A second Order of Court to admit GILES SUSSEX to be an *Assistant.*

'dered, that the Maſter and Wardens of the 'Company of Stationers ſhould *within ten Days* 'hereafter admit GILES SUSSEX to be one of 'the Aſſiſtants of the ſaid Company, and that 'he ſhould take his Place *according to his* SE-'NIORITY in the LIVERY, which they have 'hitherto *refuſed* to do. And whereas by an-'other Order, dated the Twelfth Inſtant, they 'were required to appear here this Day to ſhew 'Cauſe why they have not complyed with the 'ſaid Order, and *alſo to bring their* CHARTER 'with them: Now the *preſent* Maſter and 'Wardens appearing here this Day, this Court 'doth require and enjoin them to admit the 'ſaid GILES SUSSEX one of their Aſſiſtants, 'purſuant to the ſaid former Order, and to 'that end to call a Court of Aſſiſtants on or 'before this Day ſeven-night; and it is further 'ordered, that they do afterwards appear before 'this Court on Thurſday next come ſeven-'night, and between this and then take out 'their Charter, which (*as they now alledge*) *is* 'locked up in a Cheſt under Keys kept by the late 'Maſter and Wardens, and bring the ſame then 'unto this Court.'

The Order of Court to produce *their* CHARTER.

MAN.

'STAMPE, MAYOR.

'*Jovis* XXVIII *Die Julii*, 1692, *Annoq*; *RR*' '*& Reginæ* Willi. & Mariæ *Angliæ*, &c. 'Quarto.

The *Commitment* of the Maſter and Wardens for *refuſing* to admit the ſaid GILES SUSSEX.

'WHEREAS upon the humble Peti-'tion and Complaint of GILES SUS-'SEX, Citizen and Stationer of London, at a 'Court of Lord Mayor and Aldermen holden 'the Sixteenth Day of June, One Thouſand,

'Six Hundred, Ninety-one, an Order was made 'that the Maſter and Wardens of the Company 'of Stationers ſhould admit the ſaid GILES 'SUSSEX to be one of the Aſſiſtants of the ſaid 'Company *according to his* SENIORITY in the 'LIVERY, (being a Perſon as they then in 'Court declared *they had no Objection againſt*) 'ACCORDING TO RIGHT, AND PURSUANT 'TO THE USAGE *and* CUSTOM *of this City*. 'And whereas by another Order of the Court 'of the Nineteenth Day of this Inſtant July, 'the Maſter and Wardens of the ſaid Company '*were again required* to call a Court of Aſſiſt-'ants, and to admit the ſaid GILES SUSSEX 'to be one of their Aſſiſtants on or before Tueſ-'day laſt, as in and by the ſaid Orders may 'appear: Now *Edward Brewſter* MASTER, 'and *John Symms* and *William Phillips* WAR-'DENS of the ſaid Company appearing before 'this Court, and being ſeverally aſked whether 'for their Part reſpectively they would conſent 'to yield Obedience to the Orders of this 'Court, and to admit the ſaid GILES SUSSEX 'to be one of their Aſſiſtants, did ſeverally, 'without any ſufficient Cauſe by them or any 'of them ſhewn, *peremptorily and contuma-'ciouſly refuſe to conſent to admit* the ſaid GILES 'SUSSEX according to the Orders of this Court. 'Whereupon the ſaid *Edward Brewſter*, *John 'Symms*, and *William Phillips*, and every of 'them, for their ſaid ſeveral CONTEMPT and 'DISOBEDIENCE are by this Court commit-'ted *to the Gaol of* NEWGATE, *according to 'the Cuſtom and Uſage of this City*, there to 'remain until *they ſhall yield Obedience to the 'Orders*, or be otherwiſe diſcharged by due 'Courſe of Law.'

MAN.

Not-

Some Objections answered.

Notwithſtanding the foregoing Proceedings carry with them ſuch a Demonſtration of the *Lenity* and *Juſtice* of the Court of LORD MAYOR and ALDERMEN, yet it is not at all to be wonder'd at, that *thoſe Gentlemen*, whoſe Conduct has *merited* the *ſame Treatment*, ſhould have been, for that Reaſon, ſo vaſtly induſtrious to *explain away* the Juſtice and Legality of this *Commitment*, by pretending there was not only a *perſonal* Quarrel ſubſiſting betwixt *Sir* THO. PILKINGTON and the then *Maſter* of the *Stationers* Company, but that *that Matter* was alſo made a *party* Affair. In Anſwer to which, WE muſt deſire *theſe* ſagacious *Gentlemen* to obſerve, That it was not *Sir* THO. PILKINGTON, but *Sir* THO. STAMPE, that ſent the *Maſter* and *Wardens* to *NEWGATE*: Nor were they the ſame *Maſter* and *Wardens* againſt whom GILES SUSSEX petitioned in *Sir* THO. PILKINGTON's Time, but *their Succeſſors* that were ſent to NEWGATE by *Sir* THO. STAMPE.

The Impartiality of the Court.

And we truſt there can be no *unprejudiced* Perſon that can diſcern any thing like *Prejudice* or *Partiality* in the whole Proceedings: On the contrary, it is very certain that the LORD MAYOR and Court of ALDERMEN were not only inclined to ſhew the *Maſter* and *Wardens* the *greateſt Indulgence*, but that they actually did *it* by keeping the Affair before them no leſs than *thirteen Months*, in hopes the *Maſter* and *Wardens* would have been brought to Reaſon and a true Senſe of *their Duty* without being ſent to *Gaol*; and who, it is very plain, could not juſtify their Conduct by their *Charter*, or they would have been ready enough to have produced it. And as to their incomparable Collection of By-

LAWS

Laws, it does not appear that they dared ſo much as to mention them in Mitigation of their Offence: *Such Stuff* has undoubtedly aſſiſted them in impoſing upon the weak and credulous Part of the *Fraternity*, but when ever produced in a Court of Juſtice, they have always been adjudged *illegal*, and *repugnant* to the Liberty of the Subject. And therefore weak and wicked Men may give themſelves what Airs they pleaſe; but from Reaſon and the Nature of Things, upon which the foregoing Proceedings are juſtly founded, it is ſufficiently evident, That no *ſenior* Liveryman can be ſet aſide or deprived of his *undoubted* Right to a Seat in the Court of *Aſſiſtants*, if he has but Spirit and Reſolution to aſſert it: Nor can any of his *Juniors*, much leſs Boys, be taken into that Court before him, except he *tamely* ſubmits to the *Power* of thoſe, who by *ſuch Practices*, as are *contrary* to the *ancient* Uſage and Cuſtom of this City, have crept into Authority.

The *Uſe* of the *By-Laws*.

*** All which Particulars are further juſtified by a ſerious Peruſal of the following *Extracts* of ſeveral Acts of Parliament, which the Legiſlature has from Time to Time ſeen neceſſary to enact againſt the *unreaſonable* and *illegal* By-Laws of Companies Incorporate; *which Penal Statutes are ſtill in Force.*

By-Laws.

An EXTRACT of the Act of 19 *Henry* VII. cap. 7,

Againſt the making unreaſonable *and* illegal By-Laws *and* Ordinances *by Companies Incorporate.*

The Preamble to the ſaid Act ſets forth,

15 Hen. vi. cap. 6.

'THAT Maſters, Wardens, *&c.* of Companies Corporate, oftentimes by *Colour* and *Pretence* of *Rule* and *Governance*, and other Terms in *General Words*, to them granted and confirmed by *Charter*, do make among themſelves many *unlawful* and *unreaſonable* Laws and Ordinances for their *own ſingular* Profit, and to the *common* Hurt and Damage of *their reſpective Freemen*, IT was enacted, that from *thenceforth* no ſuch Maſters, Wardens nor Companies ſhould make or uſe *any* Law or Ordinance in Diminution of the *Prerogative* of the King, nor againſt the *common Profit of the People*; nor ſhould make or uſe any other Ordinance *of Charge*, unleſs it were firſt diſcuſſed and proved by good and reaſonable Advice, and before proper Officers *entred of Record*, UPON *Pain* to loſe and forfeit the Force and Effect of all the Articles contained in the ſaid Charters; and that they ſhould over and above forfeit to the King for every Offence the Sum of 10*l.* WHICH Act is now expired; and ſince its Expiration many Ordinances have been made by ſeveral *private Bodies Corporate*, contrary to the King's *Prerogative*,

Enforced by 22 Hen. viii. cap. 4.

'*tive*, contrary to his *Laws* of the Land, and 'contrary to the *Common Weal* of his Subjects: 'For Remedy of which

'It is enacted, That no Master, Wardens, &c. 'shall take upon them to make or execute any Acts 'or Ordinances against the common Profit of the 'People, but that the same Acts or Ordinances 'be examined and approved by the Chancellor, 'Treasurer of England, or Chief Justices, or 'three of them, or before both the Justices of As'size in their Circuit in that Shire where such 'Acts or Ordinances are made, upon the Forfei'ture of 40 l. for every Time they do contrary.

No Master, Wardens, &c. shall make Laws against the common Profit of the People. See 28 Hen. viii. c. 5.

'And it is likewise enacted, That no Bodies 'Corporate take upon them to make any Acts 'or Ordinances to restrain any Person from 'suing to the King, or to any of his Courts, 'nor put, nor execute, any Penalty or Punish'ment upon any for so doing, upon Pain of 'Forfeiture of 40 l. for every Time that they 'do the contrary.'

No Order shall be made to restrain Suit in the King's Courts, notwithstanding *the Order* in p. 20 of the *Stationers* By-Laws.

Apprentices and Journeymen.

An EXTRACT of the Act of 22 *Henry* VIII. cap. 4,

Against the Masters, Wardens, &c. *of Companies Incorporate levying* unreasonable *Exactions upon* Apprentices *when they are* Bound *and* made Free.

The Preamble to the said Act sets forth that

'WHEREAS it was enacted in the 'Nineteenth Year of the Reign of 'King *Henry* the Seventh, that no Masters, 'Wardens, &c. shall take upon them to 'make or execute any Acts or Ordinances by

A Rehersal of the Statute of 19 Hen. vii. c. 7, and how it is abused.

'them heretofore made, or hereafter to be 'made, in Diminution of the Prerogative of 'the King, nor againſt the common Pro- 'fit of the People, but that the ſame Act or 'Ordinances be examined or approved by the 'Chancellor, Treaſurer of England, or Chief 'Juſtices, or three of them, or before the 'Juſtices of Aſſize in their Circuit in the 'Shire where ſuch Acts or Ordinances are 'made, upon the Forfeiture of 40 *l.* for every 'Time that they do the contrary, as by the ſaid 'Act more plainly doth appear: SINCE which 'Time ſeveral Maſters, Wardens, and Fel- 'lowſhips, have made Ordinances, that each 'Apprentice ſhall pay at his firſt Entry in 'their Common Hall, to the Wardens, *&c.* 'ſome of them 40 *s.* ſome 30 *s.* ſome 20 *s.* ſome '13 *s.* 4 *d.* ſome 6 *s.* 8 *d.* ſome 3 *s.* 4 *d.* after 'their own ſiniſter Mind and Pleaſure, and 'contrary to the Intent and Meaning of the 'ſaid Act, and to the great Hurt and Damage 'of the King's Subjects putting their Children 'to be Apprentice: For Remedy of which

2 *s.* 6 *d.* is the Fee due to the *Wardens*, &c. at binding an Apprentice, and 3 *s.* 4 *d.* at making Free, and no more.

'**It is enacted, That no Maſter, Wardens, &c. 'ſhall from henceforth take of any Apprentice, 'or of any other Perſon or Perſons, for the 'Entry of any Apprentice into their ſaid 'Fellowſhip, above the Sum of 2 s. 6 d. nor 'for his Entry when his Years and Term 'is expired and ended, above 3 s. 4 d. upon 'Pain and Forfeiture of 40 l. for every 'Offence; the one Half to the King, the 'other Half to the Party that ſhall ſue for the 'ſame.**'

Whoever takes more, forfeits 40 *l.* for each Offence.

☞ Notwithſtanding this Act is enforced, and further provided for by 28 Hen. viii. cap. 5, yet it is manifeſtly violated by the ſeveral *Exactions* demanded in the *Table of Fees*, facing *Page* 40.

An

An EXTRACT of the Act of 28 *Henry* VIII. cap. 5,

Against the Oppression of Apprentices *and* Journeymen *by* Masters, Wardens, &c. *of Companies Incorporate.*

The Preamble to this Act sets forth that

'SINCE the several foregoing Acts, divers Masters, Wardens, *&c.* have by *cautil* and *subtil* Means endeavoured to defraud and delude the said good and wholesome Statutes, causing divers Prentices before they be made Free, to be sworn upon the Holy Evangelist at their first Entry, that they, after their Years or Time expired, shall not set up nor occupy as Freemen, without the Licence of the Master and Wardens, upon the Pain of forfeiting their Freedom, or other like Penalty: For Remedy whereof

'It is enacted, That no Maſters, Wardens, &c. shall from henceforth compel or cause any Apprentice or Journeyman, by Oath or Bond, that he shall not set up nor keep any Shop, House, or Cellar, without Licence of the Master, Wardens, or Fellowship, NOR by any Means exact or take of any such Apprentices or Journeymen, after his or their said Years expired, any Sum of Money, or other Things, for or concerning his or their Freedom, otherwise or in any other Manner than is limitted and appointed by an Act, made in the Twenty Second 'Year

No Prentice or Journeyman shall be restrain'd by Oath or Bond to keep Shop.

The Wardens and other Officers Fees for Entry of an Apprentice or Journeyman.

'Year of the Reign of King Henry the 'Eighth, upon Forfeiture of 40 l. for every 'Offence: The one Half to the King, and 'the other Half to the Party that will sue 'for the same.'

These Acts of Parliament are still *in Force* against all *unreasonable* and *illegal* Exactions, when any one is *Bound* Apprentice or *made Free*; and therefore it must be the *more surprizing* for the Reader to find that the Gentlemen, *who have settled Themselves in the Direction of the Company of* STATIONERS, do *extort such* Sums, as are not only *forbidden* by these Laws, but indeed *unreasonable* to be spoken of; and the World may judge from hence of *one* of those *many* Reasons which the *injur'd* FREEMEN have for imploring the Protection of the Laws. And here we cannot but sincerely express our Concern, that the Gentleman who so worthily fills the Office of *Clerk* to the *Company*, has the Misfortune to seem involv'd in the Guilt of *our Oppressors*; yet we are persuaded there is no Man, who considers and understands *these Matters*, but must entirely acquit him, and *only* blame *their Administration*, who, rather than consider and reward his Abilities and Attendance out of the Profits of the *English Stock*, (where the Expence could not be felt) and which, *contrary* to the *Royal Grant*, they have *forced* to circulate and center *amongst Themselves*, *their Relations*, and *Dependants*; who, we say, have most scandalously *chose* to *quarter their Clerk* upon the *poor* PRINTERS, BINDERS, and Others, whose *Oppressions in Trade* render them scarce able to support themselves, and who,

who, *conſcientiouſly ſpeaking*, are the *moſt affecting* Objects of Compaſſion to all who are *really* Judges of their Situation in Life; and therefore, in plain Engliſh, *this* way of proceeding can be no better than *Robbing the Spital.*

The Authority of Corporations, *how* and *why appointed.*

We apprehend that the Limits of *Corporations*, and the Extent of their *Juriſdiction*, are aſcertain'd by their *Charters*; and we conceive, that notwithſtanding every Corporation is entruſted with a *Franchiſe to make Laws for the well-governing the Subjects within its Juriſdiction*; yet if that Power be exerciſed *to the Subjects Prejudice*, as it is very plain it may be, it would be ſurpriſingly hard if there was no Law to redreſs that Grievance.

The Teſt of the *Validity* of all *By-Laws.*

The Power of making *By-Laws*, which is incident to a Corporation, is only *for the better Government of it*; and it is by *that* RULE only that *the Validity* of thoſe *By-Laws* muſt be *approved* or *condemned*. Therefore

Some Gentlemen leſs innocent and leſs almighty than they imagine.

The Gentlemen who have *raſhly* taken upon themſelves a Power to make Laws *to raiſe Money*, ſhould have conſider'd (to do it now we fear is too late) that they have uſurpt to themſelves *a Legiſlative Power* to oppreſs their Fellow-Subjects. Their *exacting* and taking of Money *at this Rate*, by vertue of an extravagant *By-Law*, we apprehend, cannot differ from the *blackeſt Extortion.* And,

They have *invaded* the Power of the *King* and *Parliament.*

As they pretend to be *Men of Senſe*, they ſhould alſo have conſider'd, that *to lay Impoſitions upon the King's Subjects*, is not only an Encroachment upon the *Royal Power*, but on *the Power of Parliament* likewiſe.

Why *Officers* are anſwerable for *Abuſes*, and how *Satisfaction* to be made

And if we do but duly conſider *the Nature* of *this Right*, which the Gentlemen we are now ſpeaking of do pretend to; it will readily appear, that whenever any Perſon or Perſons *take in another's* Capacity than their *own*, it is always *upon Truſt* (which is the Caſe of all *Officers of Corporations*); and wherever the *Law* creates a *Truſt*, the *Law* always provides *a Remedy, if that Truſt be broken*, viz. by putting the Truſt into

honeſter

honeſter and *abler* Hands, and making good all *Deficiences* and *Abuſes*, by *mulcting* the Tranſgreſſors.

A ſtrange Defiance of the *Laws* and *Government.*

Never before, ſure, did any Corporation, who were not under *an actual Rebellion*, ever dare to commit ſuch *Breaches* upon the *Government*, or *fly in the Face of* Authority *at this Rate.* For a few unſkilful, and, in Affairs of this kind, very ignorant or very wicked Men, to aſſume to themſelves a Power *ſuperior* to any *the King himſelf* hath in like Caſes, in order to lay *heavy Burdens* upon the People, and to levy Money upon their Fellow Subjects in ſo *unmerciful* a manner, is quite aſtoniſhing!

All Governments muſt be *ſupported*, and how to be done *legally.*

Yet after all this we are ſenſible as other Men can be, that Governments cannot be ſupported without *great Charge*, and that it is fit that every one who enjoys the Advantage of a Government, ſhould contribute towards its Support. But ſtill this cannot be done *without every Member's Conſent*, i. e. *(in the preſent Caſe)* not without the Conſent of *the Majority* of the FREEMEN: Becauſe if any, without ſuch Conſent, ſhall, *contrary to their Charter*, claim a Power to lay and levy *heavy Fines* and *Impoſitions* upon the *Community*, they thereby *invade* the *fundemental Law* of *all Property*, and *ſubvert* the *very End* and *Intention* of *all Governments.* For what *Property* can WE or any Man have in that, which other Men may take from us to *themſelves*, or give *to another*, whenever they pleaſe?

The *terrible Conſequences* of the preſent Way of proceeding in the *Court of Aſſiſtants.*

If what is above laid down is not to be admitted for *Law* and *Reaſon*, how is it poſſible for the Community to curb and reſtrain any unwarrantable and illegal Conduct of thoſe *who call themſelves* the *Maſter*, *Wardens* and *Aſſiſtants? Or*, how is it poſſible for the Members of the Company to retain one ſingle Shilling in their Pockets, that they can call their own, longer than thoſe *who call themſelves* the *Maſter*, *Wardens* and *Aſſiſtants* ſhall think fit? *Or*, what can hinder and prevent them from transferring another 9*l.* 3*s.* more, nay 100*l.* or any larger Sum, from every Member into *their own*, or into their *Clerk's* Pocket, whenever they ſhall find themſelves inclin'd, or are properly wheedled or impos'd upon, ſo to do?

LETTERS

LETTERS PATENTS

GRANTED to the

Company of STATIONERS,

On the 29th Day of *October*,

Anno MDCIII. and

In the FIRST YEAR of

King *JAMES* I.

FOR

The SOLE Printing

OF

PRIMERS, PSALTERS, PSALMS, ALMANACKS, *&c.* in Engliſh:

FOR THE

Help and Relief

OF

The *Maſter*, *Wardens* and *Freemen* or *Commonalty*, and THEIR SUCCESSORS *for ever*.

BEING

A true Copy of the Original Record remaining in the Chapel of the Rolls,

AND

Examined by HENRY ROOKE, the Clerk thereof, on the 8*th* of *December*, 1741.

LETTERS PATENTS

GRANTED to the

Company of STATIONERS,

On the 29th Day of October,

Anno MDCIII. and

In the FIRST YEAR of

King JAMES I.

FOR

The SOLE Printing

OF

PRIMERS, PSALTERS, PSALMS, ALMANACKS,
&c. in English:

FOR THE

Help and Relief

OF

The Master, Wardens and Freemen of Company,
and THEIR SUCCESSORS for ever.

BEING

A true Copy of the Original Record remaining in
the Chapel of the Rolls,

AND

Examined by HENRY PEARE, the Clerk thereof,
on the 8th of January, 1731.

The Contents of this GRANT.

I. *The* ſole *Right of printing* Primers, Pſalters *and* Pſalms *was granted for the* Help *and* Relief *(not of the Court of* Aſſiſtants *and* their Favourites, *but) of the* Maſter, Wardens *and* Commonalty *or* FREEMEN, *and* THEIR SUCCESSORS for ever. *This Grant not to prejudice the* King's Printer. ALL *others* prohibited *to* print, utter *or* ſell, *or cauſe to be* printed, uttered *or* ſold, PRIMERS, &c. *upon Pain of* Forfeiture *of all ſuch Books otherwiſe printed,* &c. *to be* ſeized *by the* Maſter, Wardens *and* Commonalty; *and upon* other *Pains and Penalties.* II. *The* Maſter, Wardens *and* Commonalty *may command any Perſon to* aid *and* aſſiſt *them in the due Execution of this Grant.* III. *The* ſole *Right of printing* Almanacks, &c. *is granted for the* better Relief *(not of the Court of* Aſſiſtants *and* their Favourites *and* Relations, *but) of the* Maſter, Wardens *and* Commonalty *or* FREEMEN *and* THEIR SUCCESSORS for ever. *All* Almanacks, &c. *in the* Engliſh *Tongue, except thoſe printed by the Company of* Stationers, *are prohibited, upon Pain of Forfeiture, and* 12d. *for every ſuch* Almanack, &c. *and upon* other *Pains and Penalties. All which Forfeitures are for the Uſe of the King.* V. *The* Maſter, Wardens *and* Commonalty *may command any Perſon to* aid *and* aſſiſt *them in ſearching for ſuch* Almanacks, &c. *and in a due Execution of this Grant.* VI. *Granted to the* Maſter, Wardens *and* Commonalty *and* their Succeſſors, *That the* Maſter, Wardens *and* Aſſiſtants *ſhall make no Laws for the Execution of this Grant, but ſuch as muſt be* reaſonable, good, honeſt, neceſſary *and* profitable *to the* FREEMEN. VII. *Offenders againſt* ſuch *Laws to be* impriſoned, fined, *or* amerced; *which* Fines, &c. *are not for the Uſe of the* Maſter, Wardens *and* Aſſiſtants, *but of the* Maſter, Wardens *and* Commonalty *or* FREEMEN, *and* THEIR SUCCESSORS. VIII. *Under what Penalties theſe Laws are to be obſerved, when found to contain nothing* contrary *or* repugnant *to the Laws,* &c. *of* ENGLAND. XI. *Where obſerve, That* only *the Execution of this Grant* againſt Offenders, *and* not *the* arbitrary *Diſpoſal of the* Profits, *is here lodged in the* Maſter, Wardens *and* Aſſiſtants.

JAMES, *by the Grace of God,* &c.
To all Prynters, Bookſellers, *and all others to whome,* &c. GREETYNGE.

I. KNOWE YEE that WEE for the *Helpe* and *Releife* of Oure lovynge Subjects beinge of the Corporacion of *Maſter* and *Keepers* or *Wardens* and *Comynaltye* of the Arte or Myſterye

The *ſole* Right of printing *Primers, Pſalters* and *Pſalms* was granted for the *Help* and *Relief* (not

of the Court of *Aſſiſtants* and *their Favouritez*, but) of the *Maſter*, *Wardens* and *Commonalty* or *Freemen*, and *their Succeſſors for ever.*

of *Stacyoners* of the Cittye of LONDON, and of *theire Succeſſors*, of Our ſpecial Grace, certain Knowledge and mere Motion have given and granted and by theis Preſentes for Us, Our Heires and Succeſſors doe gyve and graunte full Power, Authoritie, Pryvyledge and Lycence unto the ſaide *Maſter* and *Keepers* or *Wardens* and *Comynaltye* of the Myſtery or Arte of *Stacyoners* of the Cittye of LONDON and to THEIRE SUCCESSORS *for ever* To imprynt or cauſe to be imprynted all manner of Booke and Bookes of *Prymers*, *Pſalters* and *Pſalmes* in Meter or Proſe with Muſycall Notes or withoute Notes, both in great Volumes and ſmall in the *Engliſhe* Tonge, which now be or at anye Tyme hereafter ſhall be ſett forthe and permytted by Us, Our Heires or Succeſſors or by anye other Perſon or Perſons thereto by Us, Oure Heires or Succeſſors authoryſed or to be authoryſed to be had, uſed, read and taughte of, by or unto Oure lovinge Subjects throughe oute Oure Realme of ENGLANDE by whatſoever Name or Names the ſame Booke or Bookes or anye of Them are or ſhall be called (the Bookes of *Common Prayer* uſuallye read or to be read in the Churches of ENGLANDE, together with *all Bookes* conteyned in the *Letters Patents* of the Office of Oure Prynter graunted to *Robert Barker* and *Criſtofer* his Sonne alwais excepted and forepryſed) Anye other Priviledge or anye other Order heretofore granted or taken to the contrarie Notwithſtandinge: Straightly inhybytynge and prohybytynge all other the Subjects of Us, Oure Heires and Succeſſors to *Prynt*, *Utter* or *Sell*, or *cauſe to be prynted*, *uttered* or *ſolde* anye other Booke or Books of *Prymers*, *Pſalters* and *Pſalmes* in the *Engliſhe* Tonge (except

This Grant not to prejudice the *King*'s *Printer.*

All others *prohibited* to *print*, *utter* or *ſell*, or cauſe to be *printed*, *uttered* or *ſold*, *Primers*, *Pſalters* and *Pſalms*

(except before excepted) then ſuch as ſhal be by the *Maſter* and *Keepers* or *Wardens* and *Comynaltie* of the Myſtery or Arte of *Stacyoners* of the Cittye of LONDON or *theire Succeſſors* prynted or cauſed to be printed accordinge to the true Meanynge of thys Our preſent Priviledg, uppon Payne of *Forfeiture* of *all ſuche* Bookes as They ſhall Imprynte, Utter or Sell contrarye to the Meanynge hereof; The ſame Booke and Bookes, ſo to be forfeited, to be *ſeiſed* uppon and *taken* by the ſaid *Maſter* or *Keepers* or *Wardens* and *Comynaltye* of the Myſtery or Arte of *Stacyoners* of the Cittye of LONDON and *theire Succeſſors*, and uppon ſuch Paynes and Penalties as may be inflicted uppon ſuche as contempne and infrynge Oure Commaundment Royall.

Upon Pain of *Forfeiture* of all ſuch Books otherwiſe printed, *&c.* And to be *ſeized* by the *Maſter*, *Wardens* and *Commonalty*; And upon *other* Pains and Penalties.

II. Wherefore Wee will and commaunde all and every the Offycers and Subjects of Us, Oure Heires and Succeſſors, as They tender Oure Favoure and will avoid Our Diſpleaſure, That they and every of Them, yf Neede do requyre, do *aid* and *aſſyſte* the ſaid *Maſter* and *Keepers* or *Wardens* and *Comynaltye* of the Myſtery or Arte of *Stacyoners* of the Cittye of LONDON and *theire Succeſſors* in the due Execution of this Oure Graunte and Lycence with Effecte accordynge to the true Intente and Meanynge of the ſame.

The *Maſter*, *Wardens* and *Commonalty* may command *any* Perſon to *aid* and *aſſiſt* them in the due Execution of this Grant.

III. And further Knowe YEE that WEE of Oure more aboundante Grace, certen Knowledge and mere Mocion *for the better Reliefe of the ſaide Corporacion* of *Maſter* and *Keepers* or *Wardens* and *Commynaltye* of the Myſtery or Art of *Stacyoners* of the Cittye of LONDON and *their Succeſſors*, of Oure eſpecyall Grace, certen Knowledge and mere Mocion have given and graunted and by theis Preſentes

The *ſole* Right of printing *Almanacks*, &c. is granted for the *better Relief* (not of the *Court of Aſſiſtants* and *their Favourites* and *Relations*, but) of the *Maſter*,

Wardens and *Commonalty* or *Freemen* and THEIR SUCCESSORS *for ever.*

ſentes for Us, Our Heires and Succeſſors do give and graunte unto the ſaide *Maſter* and *Keepers* or *Wardens* and *Comynaltie* of the Myſtery or Arte of *Stacyoners* of the Cittye of LONDON and *theire Succeſſors*, full Power, Privileg and Authoritie, That they the ſaid *Maſter* and *Keepers* or *Wardens* and *Comynaltie* and *their Succeſſors* ſhall and may at all Tymes, and from Tyme to Tyme *for ever* prynte and cauſe to be prynted all manner of *Almanackes* and *Prognoſtycacions* whatſoever in the *Engliſhe* Tonge, and all Manner of *Bookes* and *Pamphletts* tendynge to the ſame Purpoſe, and which are not to be taken or conſtrued other than *Almanacks* or *Prognoſtycacyons* beinge allowed by the Archbuſhop of CANTERBURY and Buſhop of LONDON, or one of Them for the Tyme beinge, or by ſuch other Perſon or Perſons as They or either of Them for the Tyme beinge ſhall in that Behalfe aſſigne or appoynte, by what Names or Titles ſoever the ſame ſhall be entituled, named or called, as ſhal be printed within thys Realme of ENGLANDE.

All *Almanacks*, &c. in the *Engliſh* Tongue, except thoſe printed by the Company of *Stationers*, prohibited,

IV. Wherefore by theſe Preſentes for Us, Oure Heirs and Succeſſors WEE doe ſtraightlye charge, prohybitte and commaunde all and ſinguler other Prynters, Bookſellers and all other the Offycers Mynyſters and Subjects whatſoever of Us, Oure Heires and Succeſſors That they or any of them at any Tyme or Tymes hereafter ſhal not prynte or cauſe to be prynted any of the ſaide *Almanacks*, *Prognoſticacyons* or any other *Almanacks* or *Pronoſtycacyons*, *Books* or *Pamphletts* in the *Engliſhe* Tonge tendinge to the ſame or like Purpoſe, and that may be in any wyſe conſtrued and taken as *Almanacks* and *Prognoſticacions* by what *Titles* or *Addycyons* ſoever, the ſame be or

ſhal

ſhal be intytled or named, nor buy, utter or ſell, or cauſe to be boughte, uttered or ſolde any other *Almanacks*, *Prognoſtycacyons* or *other Books* in the *Engliſhe* Tonge tendinge to the ſame Purpoſe then ſuch only as ſhall be printed by the ſaid *Maſter* and *Keepers* or *Wardens* and *Comynaltie* of the Myſtery or Arte of *Stacyoners* of the Cittye of LONDON and *theire Succeſſors* uppon Payne of *Forfeiture* of all ſuch *Almanacks*, *Books* or *Pamphletts* and *Prognoſtycacyons* as ſhall be printed, bought, uttered or ſolde contrary to the Lymytacyon and Meaninge of theiſe Oure *Letters Patentes*, and uppon Payne of Forfeiture of *twelve Pence* for *every Almanack* and *Prognoſtycacyon* ſo to be printed, boughte, uttered or ſolde, and alſo uppon *ſuch Paynes* and *Penalties* as may be inflicted uppon ſuch as contempne or infrynge Oure Commaundmente Royall, all which ſaide Forfeitures to be to the Uſe of Us, Oure Heirs and Succeſſors.

Upon Pain of Forfeiture,

And 12 *d.* for every ſuch Almanack, *&c.*

Beſides other Pains and Penalties.

All theſe Forfeitures to the *King*'s Uſe.

V. And Moreover by theiſe our Letters Patents for Us, Oure Heires and Succeſſors WEE do will and commaunde all and ſinguler Oure Offycers, Mynyſters, and Subjects whatſoever, as they tender Oure Favour and will avoide Oure Indignacion and Dyſpleaſure for the Contrarye, That they and every of them (yf need ſhall requyre) Do aide and aſſiſte the ſaide *Maſter* and *Keepers*, or *Wardens* and *Comynaltye* and theire *Succeſſors*, as well for *ſearchinge* of all ſuch Perſon or Perſones offendinge therein, as in the *due Exercyſinge* and *Execucion* of this oure preſent Lycence and Pryvyledge with Effect, and in all matters incident to the ſame accordynge to the true meanynge of theis Preſents.

The *Maſter*, *Wardens* and *Commonalty* may command any Perſon to aid and aſſiſt Them in *ſearching* for ſuch Almanacks, *&c.* and in a due Execution of this Grant.

VI. And

Granted to the *Maſter*, *Wardens* and *Commonalty*, and *their Succeſſors*, that the Maſter, Wardens and Aſſiſtants ſhall make no Laws for the Execution of this Grant but ſuch as

Muſt be *reaſonable*,

good, *honeſt*, *neceſſary* and *profitable* to the FREEMEN. See § 2, 5.

Offenders againſt *ſuch* Laws to be impriſoned, fined, or amerced.

VI. And further Know YEE that WEE of Oure more ample Grace, certen Knowledge and mere mocion for Us, Oure Heires and Succeſſors doe by theiſe Preſents graunte unto the ſaide *Maſter* and *Keepers* or *Wardens* and *Comynaltye* of the Myſtery or Arte of *Stacyoners* of the Cittye of LONDON and *their Succeſſors*, That the ſaide *Maſter*, *Wardens* and *Aſſiſtants* of the ſaide Corporacion for the Tyme beinge, or the greater Parte of them (whereof the *Maſter* of the ſaid Corporation for the Tyme beinge, to be one) ſhall have full and free Lycence, Power and Authoritye to conſtitute, ordeyne and make from Tyme to Tyme ſuch *reaſonable* Laws, Ordinances and Conſtytucions, as to them or the greater Part of them (whereof the *Maſter* of the ſaid Corporacion for the Tyme being to be one) ſhall ſeem *good*, *profitable*, *honeſt* and *neceſſary* accordynge to theire Diſcrecions for the *good Governmente* and *Direction* of the ſaid *Maſter* and *Keepers* or *Wardens* and *Comynalty* and of *their Succeſſors* in, aboute or concernynge the *due Execucion* of theis Oure Letters Patentes.

VII. And that the ſaid *Maſter*, *Wardens* and *Aſſyſtants* for the Tyme beinge and theire Succeſſors, or the greateſt Parte of them (whereof the Maſter of the ſaid Corporacion for the Tyme beinge to be one) ſo often as they ſhall conſtitute, ordeyne and make anye *ſuch* Lawes, Conſtytucions and Ordynances, as is aforeſaid, ſhall and may impoſe, aſſeſſe, ordeyne and provyde ſuch *Paynes*, *Punyſhmentes* and *Penaltyes* by Impriſonment of Body or by Fynes and Amerciamentes or by either of them uppon all ſuch as ſhall offende agaynſt ſuch Lawes, Ordynances and Conſtitucions or any of them, as to the ſaid *Maſter*, *Wardens*

and *Aſſiſtantes*, and *theire Succeſſors*, for the Tyme beinge, or the greater Part of them (whereof the Maſter of the ſaid Corporacion for the Tyme beinge to be one) ſhall ſeem neceſſary and convenyente for the Obſervacion of the ſaide Lawes, Ordynances and Conſtitucions: And the ſame Fynes and Amerciaments from Tyme to Tyme and at all Tymes hereafter ſhall and may levy, take and have to the *Uſe* and *Behoofe* of the ſaid *Maſter* and *Keepers* or *Wardens* and *Comynaltye* and of *theire Succeſſors* withoute Impedymente of Us, Our Heires or Succeſſors, and withoute anye Accoumpte therefore to Us, Oure Heires or Succeſſors to be rendered or made.

Theſe Fines, &c. are *not* for the *Uſe* of the *Maſter*, *Wardens* and *Aſſiſtants*, but of the *Maſter*, *Wardens* and *Commonalty* or *Freemen* and *their Succeſſors*.

VIII. All and ſinguler which Lawes, Ordynances and Conſtitucions ſo, as aforeſaid, to be made, WEE will to be obſerved under the Paynes therein to be conteyned, ſo alwayes that the ſaid Lawes, Ordynances and Conſtitucions be *examyned* and *approved* by the *Chancellor* of ENGLANDE, *Treaſurer* of ENGLANDE and *Chiefe Juſtices* of either Benches of Us, Our Heires or Succeſſors for the Tyme beinge or any *Three* of Them, and be *not contrary* or *repugnante* to the Lawes, Statutes, Rights or Cuſtoms of Our Realme of ENGLANDE, nor contrary to a *Decree* touching *Printers* and *Bookſellers* made in the Courte of *Starr Chamber* the three and twentith Day of *June* in the eight and twentith Yere of the Raigne of ELIZABETH late Queen of ENGLANDE.

Under what Penalties theſe Laws are to be obſerved,

When found to contain nothing *contrary* or *repugnant* to the Laws, &c. of ENGLAND.

IX. And *for the avoyding of all Confuſyon* which may happen in and aboute the Premiſſes, Oure Will and Pleaſure is, and by theſe Preſentes for Us, Oure Heires and Succeſſors WEE do will and graunte that the *Government*, *Order* and *Direccion* of all Affaires,

The Execution of *this* Grant *againſt Offenders*, but not the *arbitrary* Diſpoſal of the *Profits*, is here lodged in

the *Maſter, Wardens* and *Aſſiſtants.* See § 2, 5.

faires, Matters and Thinges *concernynge the Execucion* of *this* Oure Graunte and Priviledge ſhall from Tyme to Tyme and at all Tymes for ever remain *wholly* and *fyrmly* in the *Maſter, Wardens* and *Aſſiſtantes* of the Myſtery or Arte of *Stationers* of the Cittye of LONDON and of their Succeſſors or of the greater Parte of Them, whereof the Maſter of the ſaid Corporacion for the Tyme beinge to be one. In Witneſs whereof, *&c.* T. R. apud HARFIELD xxix° Die *Octobris.*

Per Breve de privato Sigillo, &c.

Agrees with the Record, *now remaining in the* Chapel *of the* Rolls, *and is examined* by me *this* 8th *Day of* December, 1741.

HENRY ROOKE, *Clerk of the* Rolls.

LETTERS PATENTS

GRANTED to the

Company of STATIONERS,

On the 8th Day of *March*,

Anno MDCXV. and

In the THIRTEENTH YEAR of

King *JAMES* I.

FOR

The SOLE Printing

OF

PRIMERS, PSALTERS, PSALMS both in Meter and Prose, with or without *musical* Notes; ALMANACKS, *&c.* in the *English* Tongue: And the A. B. C. with the *Little Catechism*, and the *Catechism* in *English* and *Latin*, *&c.* by ALEXANDER NOWELL:

FOR THE

Help and Relief

OF

The *Master*, *Wardens* and *Freemen* or *Commonalty*, and THEIR SUCCESSORS *for ever*.

BEING

A true Copy of the Original Record remaining in the Chapel of the Rolls,

AND

Examined by HENRY ROOKE, the Clerk thereof, on the 8*th* of *December*, 1741.

The Contents of this *ſecond* Grant.

I. A Recital *of a Licence to* VERNEY ALLEY *to print the* Singing Pſalms, *the* A. B. C. *and* Little Catechiſm, *and the* Catechiſm *in* Engliſh *and* Latin, *&c. by* ALEXANDER NOWELL. II. *A* Recital *of the* FIRST *Grant for the* ſole *printing* Primers, Pſalters *and* Pſalms, *for the* HELP *and* RELIEF *(not of the Court of* Aſſiſtants *and their* Favourites *and* Relations, *but) of the* Maſter, Wardens *and* Commonalty *or* FREEMEN, *and* THEIR SUCCESSORS for ever. *This Grant not to prejudice the* King's Printer. *All others* prohibited *to* print, utter *or* ſell, *or cauſe to be* printed, uttered *or* ſold Primers, Pſalters *or* Pſalms. III. *A* Recital *of the* FIRST *Grant for the* ſole *printing of* ALMANACKS, *&c. for the* better Relief *(not of the Court of* Aſſiſtants *and their* Favourites *and* Relations, *but) of the* Maſter, Wardens *and* Commonalty *or* FREEMEN, *and* THEIR SUCCESSORS for ever. *All* Almanacks, *&c. in the* Engliſh *Tongue, except thoſe printed by the Company of* Stationers, *prohibited. All which* recited GRANTS *were* ſurrendered *to the* King *by the* Maſter *and* Wardens ONLY [which without the FREEMEN they could not do]. IV. *The* SECOND *Grant of K.* James I. *for the* ſole *printing* Primers, Pſalters *and* Pſalms, *is for the* Help *and* Relief *(not of the Court of* Aſſiſtants *and* their Favourites *and* Relations, *but) of the* Maſter, Wardens *and* Commonalty *or* FREEMEN, *and* THEIR SUCCESSORS for ever. *This* ſecond *Grant not to prejudice the* King's Printer. ALL *other Perſons* prohibited *to* print, utter *or* ſell, *or cauſe to be* printed, uttered *or* ſold Primers, Pſalters *and* Pſalms, *upon Pain of* Forfeiture *of all ſuch Books otherwiſe printed*, &c. *and to be* ſeized *by the* Maſter, Wardens *and* Freemen; *and upon* other *Pains and Penalties.* V. *The* Maſter, Wardens *and* Commonalty *or* FREEMEN *may command* any *Perſon to* aid *and* aſſiſt *them in the* due Execution *of this Grant.* VI. *The* SECOND *Grant of K.* James I. *for the* ſole *printing* Almanacks, &c. *is granted for the* better Relief *(not of the Court of* Aſſiſtants *and* their Favourites *and* Relations, *but) of the* Maſter, Wardens *and* Commonalty *or* FREEMEN, *and* THEIR SUCCESSORS for ever. *The* Almanacks, *by whom to be* licenced. VII. *All* Almanacks *in the* Engliſh *Tongue, except thoſe printed by the*

Company

Company of Stationers, *are prohibited, upon Pain of* Forfeiture, *and* 12d. *for every ſuch* Almanack, &c. *beſides* other *Pains and Penalties. All which Forfeitures to be to the* King's Uſe. VIII. *The* Maſter, Wardens *and* Commonalty *or* FREEMEN *may command* any *Perſon to* aid *and* aſſiſt *them in* ſearching *for* ſuch Almanacks, &c. *and in the* due Execution *of this Grant.* IX. *It is granted to the* Maſter, Wardens *and* Commonalty *or* FREEMEN, *and* their Succeſſors, *that the* Maſter, Wardens *and* Aſſiſtants *ſhall make no Laws for the* Execution *of this Grant, but ſuch as muſt be* reaſonable, good, honeſt, neceſſary *and* profitable *to the* FREEMEN. X. *All Offenders againſt* ſuch *Laws to be* impriſoned, *or* fined *and* amerced ; *which* Fines, &c. *are not for the Uſe of the* Maſter, Wardens *and* Aſſiſtants, *but for the Uſe of the* Maſter, Wardens *and* Commonalty *or* FREEMEN, *and* THEIR SUCCESSORS. XI. *Under what* Penalties *theſe Laws are to be obſerved, when they are found to contain nothing* contrary *or* repugnant *to the Laws,* &c. *of* ENGLAND. XII. *All* SUCH *Orders,* &c. *made before this Time concerning the* due Execution *of the* Premiſes *heretofore granted, and that have been examined and* legally *approved, are confirmed.* XIII. *To avoid Confuſion, the* Execution *of this Grant* againſt Offenders, *but* not *the* arbitrary *Diſpoſal of the* Profits, *is here lodged in the* Maſter, Wardens *and* Aſſiſtants. XIV. *This Grant ſhall be accounted* good *and* available *againſt the* King, *his* Heirs *and* Succeſſors, *notwithſtanding any* Miſrecital, *&c.*

JAMES, *by the Grace of God,* &c.
To all Prynters, Bookſellers, *and all others to whome theſe Preſentes ſhall come,* GREETYNGE.

A *Recital* of a Licence granted to VERNEY ALLEY to print the *Pſalms* in *Engliſh Meeter* and *muſical Notes,*

I. WHEREAS Our dear Siſter ELIZABETH late Queen of ENGLAND by her *Letters Patentes* under the Great Seale of ENGLAND, bearing Date at WESTMINSTER the ſixth and twentith Daie of February in the three and thirtieth

the A. B. C. &c. and the *Catechiſm* in *Latin* and *Engliſh*, &c. by ALEX. NOWELL.

thirtieth Year of her late Reigne, did of her eſpecial Grace, certaine Knowledge and meere Motion, graunt and give Licence and Priviledge unto her well beloved Subject VERNEY ALLEY Gentleman, and to his Aſſignes *in Reverſion* for Terme of thirty Yeares, to commence and begin immediatelie from and after the Death and Deceaſe of JOHN DAIE and RICHARD DAIE his Sonne, by himſelf or by his Aſſignes to imprint or cauſe to be imprinted the *Pſalms* of DAVID in *Engliſh* Meetre, and Notes to ſinge them; The A. B. C. with *the Little Catechiſme* and the *Catechiſme* in *Engliſhe* and *Latine* compiled by ALEXANDER NOWELL, with *all other* Bookes in *Engliſhe* or *Latine*, which the ſaid ALEXANDER NOWELL before that had made or thereafter ſhould make, write or tranſlate, and had or ſhould appoint to be printed by the ſaid VERNEY ALLEY or his Aſſignes; and alſo *all ſuch other* Bookes whatſoever as the ſaid VERNEY ALLEY ſhould imprint, being compiled, tranſlated and ſet forth by anie learned Man at the Procurement, Coſts and Charges of the ſaid VERNEY ALLEY, ſoe that no ſuch Booke or Bookes ſhould be repugnant to the Holie Scripture or the Lawes or Orders of this Realme, as in, and by the ſame Letters Patents maie appeare; which ſaid Letters Patents the Adminiſtrators and Aſſignes of the ſaid VERNEY have aſſigned and ſett over unto certaine Perſons in Truſt to the Uſe of the *Maſter* and *Keepers* or *Wardens* and *Commynaltie* of the Arte or Miſtery of *Stacioners* of the Cittie of LONDON and *theire Succeſſors*.

II. And whereas alſo by Our Letters Patents under Our Great Seal of ENGLAND bearinge Date at HARFIELDE the nyne and twentith

tith Daie of *October*, in the firſt Yeare of Our Reigne of ENGLAND, FRANCE and IRELAND, and of SCOTLAND the ſeven and thirtieth, It is mencioned, that WEE for the *Helpe* and *Releife* of Oure lovynge Subjects beinge of the Corporacion of the *Maſter* and *Keepers* or *Wardens* and *Commynaltie* of the Arte or Myſterie of *Stacioners* of the Citte of LONDON, and *theire Succeſſors*, of Oure ſpecial Grace, certaine Knowledge and meere Mocion have given and graunted full Power and Authoritie, Priviledge and Lycence unto the ſaide *Maſter* and *Keepers* or *Wardens* and *Comynaltie* of the Miſterie or Arte of *Stacioners* of the Cittie of LONDON and to THEIRE SUCCESSORS *for ever* To imprint or cauſe to be imprinted all manner of Booke and Bookes of *Primers*, *Pſalters* and *Pſalmes* in Meeter or Proſe with *Muſical Notes* or *withoute Notes*, both in great Volumes and in ſmall in the *Engliſhe* Tongue, which then were or at any Time after that ſhould bee ſett forthe and permitted by Us, Our Heires or Succeſſors or by any other Perſon or Perſons thereto by Us, Our Heires or Succeſſors authoriſed or to be authoriſed to be had, uſed, read or taught of, by or unto Our lovinge Subjects throughout Our Realme of ENGLAND by whatſoever Name or Names the ſame Booke or Bookes or anie of Them were or ſhoulde be called (the Bookes of *Common Prayer* uſuallie reade or to be reade in the Churches of ENGLANDE, togeather with *all Bookes* conteyned in the *Letters Patentes* of the Office of Our Printer graunted to *Robert Barker* and *Chriſtopher* his Sonne out of the ſaid recited Graunt alwaies excepted and forepriſed) with Prohibition to all other the Subjects of Us, Our Heires and Succeſſors to *Print*, *Utter*

A Recital of the *firſt* Grant for the *ſole* printing *Primers*, *Pſalters* and *Pſalms*, for the *Help* and *Relief* (not of the Court of *Aſſiſtants* and *their Favourites* and *Relations*, but) of the *Maſter*, *Wardens* and *Commonalty* or FREEMEN, and THEIR SUCCESSORS *for ever*.

This Grant not to prejudice the *King's Printer*.

All others *prohibited* to *print*, *utter* or *ſell*, or cauſe to be *printed*, *uttered* or *ſold*, *Primers*, *Pſalters* or *Pſalms*.

Utter or *Sell*, or *cauſe to bee printed*, *uttered* or *ſould* anie other Booke or Bookes of *Prymmers*, *Pſalters* and *Pſalmes* in the *Engliſhe* Tongue (except as in the ſaid recited Letters Patents is excepted) then ſuch as ſhoulde bee by the *Maſter* and *Keepers* or *Wardens* and *Commynaltie* of the Arte of *Stacioners* of the Cittie of LONDON or *theire Succeſſors* printed or cauſed to be printed accordinge to the true Meaneing of the ſame Graunte.

A Recital of the *firſt* Grant for the *ſole* printing *Almanacks*, &c. for the *better Relief* (not of the Court of *Aſſiſtants* and *their Favourites* and *Relations*, but) of the *Maſter*, *Wardens* and *Commonalty* or FREEMEN, and THEIR SUCCESSORS *forever*.

III. And where in and by our ſaid recited Letters Patents It further mencioned That WEE of Our more abundant Grace, certaine Knowledge and meere Mocion *for the better Reliefe of the ſaid Corporacion* of the *Maſter* and *Keepers* or *Wardens* and *Comynaltie* of the Miſtery or Arte of *Stacyoners* of the Cittie of LONDON and *theire Succeſſors*, did give and graunte unto the ſaide *Maſter* and *Keepers* or *Wardens* and *Commynaltie* of the Miſtery or Arte of *Stacyoners* of the Cittie of LONDON and *theire Succeſſors*, full Power, Priviledge and Authority, That they the ſaid *Maſter* and *Keepers* or *Wardens* and *Comynaltie* and *theire Succeſſors* ſhould and might at all Times, and from Time to Time *for ever* printe and cauſe to be printed all manner of *Almanacks* and *Prognoſticacions* whatſoever in the *Engliſhe* Tongue, and all Manner of *Bookes* and *Pamphletts* tendinge to the ſame Purpoſe, and which were not to bee taken or conſtrued other then *Almanacks* or *Prognoſticacions* beinge allowed by the Archbiſhoppe of CANTERBURY and Biſhoppe of LONDON, or one of Them for the Time beinge, or by ſuche other Perſon or Perſons as They or either of Them for the Tyme beinge ſhoulde in that Behalfe aſſigne or appointe, by what Names or Titles ſoever the ſame ſhould bee entitled,

entitled, named or called, as ſhould be printed within this Realme of ENGLANDE, with ſtraight Commaundement and Prohibicion to all and ſinguler other Printers, Bookſellers and all other Officers Miniſters and Subjects whatſoever of Us, Our Heires and Succeſſors, That they or anie of them at anie Time or Times after that ſhould not printe or cauſe to bee printed anie of the ſaid *Almanacks*, *Prognoſticacions* or anie other *Almanacks* or *Pronoſticacions*, *Bookes* or *Pamphletts* in the *Engliſhe* Tongue tendinge to the ſame or like Purpoſe, and that mighte bee in anie wiſe conſtrued and taken as *Almanacks* and *Prognoſticacions* by what *Titles* or *Addicions* ſoever the ſame were or ſhoulde be intitled or named; nor buy, utter or ſell, or cauſe to bee bought, uttered or ſoulde anie other *Almanacks*, *Prognoſticacions* or *other* Bookes in the *Engliſhe* Tongue tendinge to the ſame Purpoſe, then ſuche onelie as ſhoulde bee printed by the ſaide *Maſter* and *Keepers* or *Wardens* and *Comynaltie* of the Miſterie or Arte of *Stacioners* of the Cittie of LONDON and *theire Succeſſors*, as in and by the ſaide recited Letters Patents more plainelie appeareth, Which ſaide recited Letters Patents by Us graunted the ſaide *Maſter* and *Keepers* or *Wardens* of the Art or Miſterie of *Stacioners* of the Cittie of LONDON have ſurrendered to Us in Our Court of *Chauncerie*, and which WEE have accepted.

All *Almanacks*, &c. in the *Engliſh* Tongue, except thoſe printed by the Company of *Stationers*, prohibited.

All which *recited* GRANTS *ſurrendered* to the *King* by the *Maſter* and *Wardens* ONLY.

IV. Now know YEE that WEE for the *Helpe* and *Reliefe* of the ſaide Corporacion of *Maſter* and *Keepers* or *Wardens* and *Comynaltie* of the Arte or Miſterie of *Stacioners* of the Cittie of LONDON and *theire Succeſſors*, of Our ſpecial Grace, certaine Knowledge and meere Mocion have given and graunted, and by theſe

The *ſecond* Grant of K. *James* I. for the *ſole* Right of printing *Primers*, *Pſalters* and *Pſalms* was granted for the *Help*

and *Relief* (not of the Court of *Aſſiſtants* and *their Favourites* and *Relations*, but) of the *Maſter*, *Wardens* and *Commonalty* or *Freemen*, and THEIR SUCCESSORS *for ever*.

Preſents for Us, Our Heires and Succeſſors doe give and graunte full Power, Authoritie, Priviledge and Licence unto the ſaide *Maſter*, and *Keepers* or *Wardens* and *Comynaltie* of the Miſterie or Arte of *Stacioners* of the Cittie of LONDON and to THEIRE SUCCESSORS *for ever*, To imprinte or cauſe to bee imprinted all Manner of Booke or Bookes of *Prymmers*, *Pſalters* and *Pſalms* in Meeter or Proſe with muſicall Noates or withont Noates both in great Volumes and in ſmall, in the *Engliſhe* Tongue, which now bee or at anie Time hereafter ſhall bee ſett forthe and permitted by Us, Our Heires or Succeſſors, or by anie other Perſon or Perſons thereto by Us, Our Heires or Succeſſors authorized or to bee authorized, to bee had, reade, uſed or taught of, by, or unto Our lovinge Subjects throughout Our Realme of *Englande* by whatſoever Name or Names the ſame Booke or Bookes, or anie of them are or ſhall bee called, (The Booke of *Common Prayer* uſuallie reade or to be reade in the Churches of *Englande*, togeather with all Bookes conteyned in the Letters Patents of the Office of Our Printer graunted to ROBERT BARKER and CHRISTOPHER his Sonne, other then the ſaide Booke and Bookes of *Prymmers*, *Pſalters*, *Pſalms* in Meeter or Proſe, *Almanacks*, *Prognoſticacions* and *Bookes* and *Pamphletts* tendinge to the ſame Purpoſe, which are not to bee taken or conſtrued other then *Almanacks* or *Prognoſticacions*, alwaies excepted and forepriſed) anie Priviledge or anie other Order heretofore graunted or taken to the Contrarie Notwithſtandinge : Straightlie inhibiting and prohibiting all other Perſon or Perſons whatſoever to printe, utter or ſell, or cauſe to bee printed, uttered or ſould, or

This *ſecond* Grant not to prejudice the *King's Printer*.

All others *prohibited* to *print*, *utter* or *ſell*, or cauſe to be *printed*, *uttered* or *ſold*, *Primers*, *Pſalters* and *Pſalms*

to

to be brought into this Realme from anie the Partes beyonde the Seas anie other Booke or Bookes of *Prymmers*, *Pſalters* and *Pſalmes* in the *Engliſhe* Tongue (except before excepted) then ſuche as ſhall bee by the *Maſter* and *Keepers* or *Wardens* and *Comynaltie* of the Miſterie or Arte of *Stacioners* of the Cittie of LONDON, or *theire Succeſſors*, printed or cauſed to bee printed according to the true Meaninge of this Our preſent Graunt and Priviledge, upon Paine of *Forfeiture* of *all ſuche* Bookes, as they ſhall imprinte, utter or ſell contrarie to the Meaninge hereof: The ſame Booke and Bookes ſo to bee forfeited to be *ſeiſed* uppon and *taken* by the ſaide *Maſter* and *Keepers* or *Wardens* and *Comynaltie* of the Miſtery or Arte of *Stacioners* of the Cittie of LONDON and *theire Succeſſors* to theire owne proper Uſe, Benefitt and Behoofe, and uppon ſuch *Paines* and *Penalties* as may be inflicted uppon ſuche as contemne and infringe Our Commaundement Royall.

Upon Pain of *Forfeiture* of all ſuch Books otherwiſe printed, *&c.* And to be *ſeized* by the *Maſter*, *Wardens* and *Commonalty*; And upon *other* Pains and Penalties.

V. Wherefore WEE will and commaunde all and every the Officers and Subjects of Us, Oure Heires and Succeſſors, as They tender Oure Favoure and will avoide Our Diſpleaſure, That they and every of Them (if Neede do require) doe *aid* and *aſſyſte* the ſaid *Maſter* and *Keepers* or *Wardens* and *Comynaltie* of the Arte or Miſterie of *Stacioners* of the Cittie of LONDON, and *theire Succeſſors*, in the due Execution of this Our Graunte and Lycence with Effecte, accordinge to the true Intent and Meaninge of the ſame.

The *Maſter*, *Wardens* and *Commonalty* may command *any* Perſon to *aid* and *aſſiſt* them in the due Execution of this *ſecond* Grant.

VI. And further Know YEE that WEE of Our more aboundant Grace, certaine Knowledge and meere Mocion, for the *better Reliefe* of the ſaide Corporacion of *Maſter* and

The *ſecond* Grant of K. JAMES I. for the *ſole* Right of printing *Almanacks*,

&c. is granted for the *better Relief* (not of the *Court of Aſſiſtants* and *their Favourites* and *Relations*, but) of the *Maſter*, *Wardens* and *Commonalty* or *Freemen* and THEIR SUCCESSORS *for ever.*

Keepers or *Wardens* and *Comynaltie* of the Miſterie or Arte of *Stacioners* of the Cittie of LONDON and *their Succeſſors*, of Our ſpecial Grace, certaine Knowledge and meere Mocion Have given and graunted, and by theſe Preſents for Us, Our Heires and Succeſſors Doe give and graunte unto the ſaide *Maſter* and *Keepers* or *Wardens* and *Comynaltie* of the Miſterie or Arte of *Stacioners* of the Cittie of LONDON, and *theire Succeſſors*, full Power, Priviledge and Authoritie That they, the ſaide *Maſter* and *Keepers* or *Wardens* and *Comynaltie* and *theire Succeſſors* ſhall and maie at all Times and from Time to Time *for ever* printe and cauſe to bee printed all manner of *Almanacks* and *Prognoſticacions* in the *Engliſhe* Tongue, and all manner of *Bookes* and *Pamphletts* tendinge to the ſame Purpoſe, and which are not to bee taken and conſtrued other then *Almanacks* or *Prognoſticacions*, being allowed by the Archbiſhoppe of CANTERBURIE and Biſhoppe of LONDON, or one of them for the Time beinge, or by ſuche other Perſon or Perſons, as they or either of them, for the Time beinge, ſhall in that Behalfe aſſigne or appointe by what Names or Titles ſoever the ſame ſhall be intitled, named or called, as ſhall bee printed within this Our Realme of ENGLANDE.

Almanacks, &c. by whom to be licenced.

All *Almanacks*, &c. in the *Engliſh* Tongue, except thoſe printed by the Company of *Stationers*, prohibited,

VII. Wherefore by theſe Preſents for Us, Our Heirs and Succeſſors WEE doe ſtraightlie charge, prohibite and commaunde all and ſinguler other *Printers*, *Bookſellers* and *all others* the Officers, Miniſters and Subjects whatſoever of Us, Our Heires and Succeſſors, That they or anie of them at anie Time or Times hereafter ſhall not printe or cauſe to bee printed or brought from the Partes beyonde the

Seas

Seas anie of the ſaide *Almanackes*, *Prognoſtica-cions* or anie other *Almanackes* or *Prognoſtica-cions*, *Bookes* or *Pampheletts* in the *Engliſhe* Tongue, tendinge to the ſame or like Pur-poſe, and that maie be in anie wiſe conſtrued and taken as *Almanacks* and *Prognoſticacions* by what Titles or Addicions ſoever the ſame bee or ſhall bee intitled or named, nor buy, utter or ſell, or cauſe to bee boughte, uttered or ſoulde anie other *Almanackes*, *Prognaſticacions* or other *Bookes* in the *Engliſhe* Tongue tendinge to the ſame or like Purpoſe then, ſuch onelie as ſhall bee printed by the ſaid *Maſter* and *Keepers* or *Wardens* and *Comynaltie* of the Miſterie or Arte of *Stacioners* of the Cittie of LONDON, and *theire Succeſſors*, uppon Paine of *Forfeiture* of all ſuche *Almanackes*, *Bookes*, *Pampheletts* and *Prognoſticacions* as ſhall bee printed, bought, uttered or ſould contrarie to the Lymitacion and Meaninge of theſe Our *Letters Patentes*, and uppon Paine of Forfeiture of *twelve Pence* for *every Almanacke* and *Prognoſticacion* ſoe to bee printed, boughte, uttered or ſoulde, or imported, or brought into this Realme from beyonde the Seas; and alſoe uppon *ſuch Paynes* and *Penalties* as maie bee inflicted up-pon ſuch as contemne and infringe Our Com-maundmente Royall: All which ſaide Forfei-tures to bee to the Uſe of Us, Our Heires and Succeſſors.

Upon Pain of *Forfeiture*,

And 12 *d.* for every ſuch *Al-manack*, &c.

Beſides other Pains and Pe-nalties.

All theſe For-feitures to the *King's* Uſe.

VIII. And Moreover by theſe our Letters Patents for Us, Our Heires and Succeſſors WEE doe will and commaunde all and ſinguler Our Officers, Miniſters, and Subjects whatſoever, as they tender Our Favour, and will avoide Our Indignacion and Diſpleaſure for the Contrarie, That they and everie of them (if Neede ſhall require) doe *ayde* and *aſſiſte* the ſaide

The *Maſter*, *Wardens* and *Commonalty* may command any Perſon to aid and aſſiſt Them in *ſearching* for ſuch *Alma-nacks*, &c.

and in the *due Execution* of this Grant.

ſaide *Maſter* and *Keepers* or *Wardens* and *Comynaltie* and theire *Succeſſors*, as well for *Searchinge* of all ſuche Perſon or Perſones offending therein, as in the *due Exerciſe* and *Execucion* of this Our preſent Licence and Priviledge with Effect, and in *all matters incident* to the ſame, accordinge to the true Meaninge of theſe Preſents.

Granted to the *Maſter*, *Wardens* and *Commonalty*, and *their Succeſſors*, that the Maſter, Wardens and Aſſiſtants ſhall make no Laws for the Execution of this Grant but ſuch as

IX. And further Know YEE that WEE of Our more ample Grace, certaine Knowledge and meere Mocion for Us, Our Heires and Succeſſors, Doe by theſe Preſents graunte unto the ſaide *Maſter* and *Keepers* or *Wardens* and *Comynaltie* of the Miſterie or Arte of *Stacioners* of the Cittie of LONDON, and *theire Succeſſors*, That the ſaide *Maſter*, *Wardens* and *Aſſiſtantes* of the ſaide Corporacion for the Time beinge, or the greater Parte of them (whereof the *Maſter* of the ſaide Corporation, for the Time beinge, to be one) ſhall have full and free Licence, Power and Authoritie to conſtitute, ordaine and make from Time to Time ſuche *reaſonable* Lawes, Ordinances and Conſtitucions, as to them or the greater Part of them (whereof the *Maſter* of the ſaid Corporacion, for the Time beinge, to be One) ſhall ſeeme *good*, *profittable*, *honeſt* and *neceſſarie* accordinge to theire Diſcrecions, for the *good Governemente* and *Direccion* of the ſaide *Maſter* and *Keepers* or *Wardens* and *Comynaltie* and of *theire Succeſſors* in, aboute or concerninge the *due Execucion* of *theſe* Our Letters Patents.

Muſt be *reaſonable*,

good, *honeſt*, *neceſſary* and *profitable* to the FREEMEN.
See p. 48.

X. And that the ſaide *Maſter*, *Wardens* and *Aſſiſtantes* for the Time beinge, and *theire Succeſſors*, or the greateſt Parte of them (whereof the *Maſter* of the ſaide Corporacion, for the Time beinge, to be One) ſoe often as they ſhall conſtitute, ordaine and make anie

ſuch

ſuch Laws, Conſtitucions and Ordinances, as is aforeſaide, ſhall and maie impoſe, aſſeſſe, ordaine and provide ſuch *Paines*, *Puniſhmentes* and *Penalties*, by Impriſonment of Body or by Fines and Amerciamentes, or by either of them, uppon all ſuche as ſhall offende againſt ſuche Lawes, Ordinances and Conſtitucions, or anie of them, as to the ſaid *Maſter*, *Wardens* and *Aſſiſtantes* and theire Succeſſors for the Time beinge, or the greater Parte of them (whereof the Maſter of the ſaide Corporacion for the Time beinge to be One) ſhall ſeem neceſſary and convenient for the Obſervacion of the ſaide Lawes, Ordinances and Conſtitucions, and the ſame Fines and Amerciaments from Time to Time and at all Times hereafter ſhall and maie leavie, take and have to the Uſe and Behoofe of the ſaide *Maſter* and *Keepers* or *Wardens* and *Comynaltie* and of *theire Succeſſors* without Impedimente of Us, Our Heires, or Succeſſors, and without anie Accompte therefore to Us, Our Heires or Succeſſors to bee rendered or made.

Offenders againſt *ſuch* Laws to be *impriſoned*, or *fined* and *amerced*;

Which Fines, *&c.* are *not* for the Uſe of the *Maſter*, *Wardens* and *Aſſiſtants*, but of the *Maſter*, *Wardens* and *Commonalty* or FREEMEN, and THEIR SUCCESSORS.

XI. All and ſinguler which Lawes, Ordinances and Conſtitucions ſöe, as aforeſaide, to bee made, WEE will to bee obſerved under the Paines therein conteyned. So alwaies that the ſaide Lawes, Ordinances and Conſtitucions be alreadie, or ſhall bee *examyned* and *approved* by the *Chauncellor* of ENGLAND, *Treaſurer* of ENGLANDE and *Cheefe Juſtices* of either *Benches* of Us, Our Heires or Succeſſors for the Time beinge or *anie three of them*, and bee not *contrarie* or *repugnant* to the Lawes, Statutes, Rightes or Cuſtomes of Our Realme of ENGLANDE, nor *contrarie* to the Decree touching Printers and Bookſellers made in the Courte of *Starr Chamber* the three and twentith Daie

Under what Penalties theſe Laws are to be obſerved,

When found to contain nothing *contrary* or *repugnant* to the *Laws*, &c. of ENGLAND.

Daie of *June* in the eighte and twentith Yeare of the Raigne of Oure ſaide Deere Siſter ELIZABETH late Queene of ENGLANDE.

All *ſuch* Orders, &c. made before this Time concerning the *due Execution* of the *Premiſes* heretofore granted, and that have been examined and *legally* approved, are confirmed.

XII. And WEE alſoe do by theſe Preſentes confirme, approve and allowe all and every ſuche Lawes, Ordinances and Conſtitucions as by the *Maſter* and *Keepers* or *Wardens* and *Comynaltie* of the ſaid Miſterie or Arte of *Stacioners* or anie of *theire Predeceſſors* have been conſtituted, ordeyned and made for the good Governmente and Direccion of the ſaide *Maſter* and *Keepers* or *Wardens* and *Comynaltie* and of their Succeſſors in, about or concerninge the *due Execucion* of Oure *former* Letters Patents graunted of the Premiſes or anie of them: And which Lawes, Ordinances and Conſtitucions have been *examined* and *approved* by the *Lord Chauncellor* of ENGLANDE, and by the *Chiefe Juſtices* of either Benche for the Time beinge under theire Handes and Seales.

To avoid Confuſion, the *Execution* of *this* Grant *againſt Offenders*, but *not* the *arbitrary* Diſpoſal of the *Profits*, is here lodged in the *Maſter*, *Wardens* and *Aſſiſtants*. See p. 50.

XIII. And for the avoideinge of all Confuſion which maie happen in and aboute the Premiſes, Our Will and Pleaſure is, and by theſe Preſentes for Us, Oure Heires and Succeſſors WEE do will and graunte That the Government, Order and Direccion of all Affaires, Matters and Thinges *concerninge the Execucion* of *this* Oure Graunte and Priviledge ſhall from Time to Time and at all Times *for ever* remaine wholie and firmelie in the *Maſter*, *Wardens* and *Aſſiſtantes* of the Miſterie or Arte of *Stacioners* of the Cittie of LONDON, and of theire Succeſſors, and of the greater Parte of Them (whereof the Maſter of the ſaid Corporacion for the Time beinge to bee one).

XIV. And WEE further will and graunte for Us, Oure Heires and Succeſſors, That this Oure Preſente Graunte ſhall bee *good* and *availeable* againſt

againſt Us, Our Heires and Succeſſors, Notwithſtandinge anie *Miſrecitall* or *Not-recitall* of anie former Graunte or Grauntes of the Premiſſes or anie of them to anie Perſon or Perſons whatſoever; and notwithſtandinge anie Miſnameinge, not true nameinge or not nameinge of anie of the Premiſſes or of anie of them; Although expreſſe Mencion of the Certaintie of the Premiſſes or of anie of them, or of anie other Giftes or Grauntes by Us, or anie Our Progenitors or Predeceſſors to the ſaide *Maſter* and *Keepers* or *Wardens* and *Comynaltie* heretofore made in theſe Preſentes, is not expreſſed; or anie other or former Graunte by Us or anie Our Progenitors heretofore had, made or done, or mencioned to bee had, made or done to anie other Perſon or Perſons whatſoever or anie Statute, Acte, Ordinance, Proviſion, Proclamacion or Reſtrainte to the contrarie thereof had, made, ordeyned or provided or anie other Matter, Cauſe or Thinge whatſoever to the Contrarie notwithſtandinge. In Witneſs, *&c.* Witneſs Our Self at WESTMINSTER the eighte Daie of Marche.

This Grant ſhall be accounted *good* and *available* in a Court of Juſtice.

Per Breve de Privato Sigillo, &c.

Agrees with the *Original Record* now remaining in the Chapel of the *Rolls*, and is examined by me this *Eighth* Day of *December*, 1741.

HENRY ROOKE, Clerk of the *Rolls*.

THE

CHARTER

GRANTED to the

Company of STATIONERS,

On the 22d Day of *May*,

Anno MDCLXXXIV. and

In the THIRTY SIXTH YEAR of

King *CHARLES* II.

BEING

A faithful Tranſlation from the Original *Latin* Record remaining in the Chapel of the Rolls,

AND

Examined by HENRY ROOKE, the Clerk thereof, on the 10*th* of *December*, 1741.

THE CONTENTS OF THIS CHARTER.

I. THE Preamble, *ſetting forth the* General Grant of Incorporation *by* PHILIP *and* MARY. II. *Who the* FIRST Maſter, Wardens *and* Freemen. III. *The* Maſter, Wardens *and* Freemen *are made* one Body *corporate* for ever. IV. *And* THEY jointly *to have a* perpetual Succeſſion. *How* THEY *are to be* ſtiled. V. *How they are to* plead *and to be* impleaded. VI. *To have a* Common Seal. VII. *Not a Court of* Aſſiſtants, *but the* Freemen *with the* Maſter *and* Wardens *empowered to make* By-Laws. VIII. *Such* By-Laws *muſt in all Reſpects be agreeable to the Laws of the Land.* XI. *And the* Freemen, *&c. ſhall meet for* ſuch Purpoſes *without Moleſtation.* X. *The* FREEMEN *from* amongſt THEMSELVES *ſhall* YEARLY, *or* oftener *or* ſeldomer *chuſe a* Maſter *and* Wardens. XI. *And* THEY *may* remove *or* diſplace *ſuch Maſter and Wardens* at their Pleaſure. XII. *When the Maſter and ſenior Warden are to have a* double Vote. XIII. *The Maſter, Wardens and* FREEMEN *may* ſell *and* purchaſe, &c. *notwithſtanding the Statute of* Mortmain. XIV. *Provided the Purchaſe be in* LONDON, *and does not exceed the* yearly *Value of* 20l. XV. *No Perſon to exerciſe the Art of Printing for Sale, except he be free of the* Stationers *Company of* LONDON; *the* PATENTEES *excepted.* XVI. *The Maſter, Wardens and* Freemen *empowered to* ſearch *and* ſeize *prohibited Books.* XVII. *The* PETITION *of the Maſter, Wardens and* Freemen *to K.* Charles II. *for a* Confirmation *of the* CHARTER *granted by* PHILIP *and* MARY

to the Company of Stationers. XVIII. *Their Petition that the* Governing Part *and* Clerk *ſhould be liable to be removed by Order of the* Privy Council. XIX. *The* CHARTER *of* PHILIP *and* MARY *confirmed to the Company of* Stationers *without Diminution.*

[*N. B.* All the *Additions*, *Proviſions* and *Regulations* mentioned hereafter in *this* CHARTER, are *null* and *void*, by a ſpecial Act of Parliament, in the 2 *W.* & *M.* See *Page* 24 preceeding.]

XX. *A* Court of Aſſiſtants FIRST *mentioned in the Stationers Charter, but ſince repealed by an* Act of Parliament *of the* 2 W. & M. XXI. *The Court of* Aſſiſtants *conſtituted, not at the Petition of the Maſter, Wardens and* Freemen, *but of the Maſter and Wardens* ONLY. *Who is to* preſide *in a Court of* Aſſiſtants. *The Power of a Court of* Aſſiſtants. XXII. *When the* Maſter *ſhall have a* double *Vote.* XXIII. *The Names of the* Aſſiſtants *created by this Charter.* XXIV. *The Maſter and Wardens paſt theſe Offices are to* take their Places *by their Seniority in Freedom.* XXV. *Who had Power by this Charter* (which is now void) *to call a Court of* Aſſiſtants. XXVI. *The* Maſter, Wardens *and* Aſſiſtants *to fill up all* Vacancies *in the* Aſſiſtants (but this is VOID by Act of Parliament). *How the* Aſſiſtants *are to be* qualified. XXVII. *By whom they muſt be ſworn.* XXVIII. *The* Clerk *appointed by this Charter was not conſtituted at the Petition of the Maſter, Wardens and* Freemen, *but* only *at the Inſtance of the* Maſter *and* Wardens. *How to be choſen for the future. How to be qualified if this Charter were now in Force. Muſt be preſented to and* approved *by the King.* XXIX. *When the Election of a* Clerk *is void.* XXX. *All the Elections of* unqualified *Perſons to be* void. XXXI. *The* King *has reſerved a Power to* remove *any* Officer, *and in ſuch Caſe a new Election to be made. The* new Elected *to be* duly qualified. XXXII. *The* Stationers *Company ſubjected to the Juriſdiction of the Court of* Lord Mayor *and* Aldermen. XXXIII. *No Perſon*, except he be free *of the Stationers Company, and an* Inhabitant *of the City of* LONDON *or the Liberties thereof, ſhall erect a* Printing-Houſe *or* Preſs, *or act as a* Maſter-Printer *or a* Founder. XXXIV. *None but* free Stationers *of* LONDON, *to* bind, ſell, &c. *any Book*, &c. *in* LONDON

The Contents of this Charter.

DON *or* WESTMINSTER, *or within* four Miles thereof. XXXV. *They ſhall not* print, buy, ſell, &c. *any thing* againſt the Government, *nor to the* Prejudice *or* Scandal *of any Perſon.* XXXVI. Bookſellers, Binders, Sewers, &c. *ſhall keep and expoſe their Books in* Shops. *By whom they are to be* ſearched. XXXVII. *The* Publick Regiſter *of the Company for* Copies *and* Books *confirmed and eſtabliſhed. The* Security *from thence to the* Proprietor. XXXVIII. *In what manner* Shops, &c. *are to be* ſearched. *The Books ſeized to be carried to the* Secretary *of* State. XXXIX. *All Men obliged to aſſiſt in the* Execution *of this Charter.* XL. *The* Majority *of the Court of* Aſſiſtants *to make* By-Laws *for the* well Governing *of the Company.* XLI. Such Laws *muſt not be repugnant to the Laws of the Land.*

THE

THE CHARTER

GRANTED to the

Company of STATIONERS,

On the 22d Day of *May*,

Anno MDCLXXXIV. and

In the THIRTY SIXTH YEAR of

King *CHARLES* II.

The KING *to all thoſe to whom theſe Preſents ſhall come*, GREETING.

I. WHEREAS King PHILIP and Queen MARY by their Letters Patents ſealed with their Great Seal of ENGLAND, dated at *Weſtminſter* on the *fourth* Day of *May* in the *third* and *fourth* Years of their Reigns, have for Themſelves and the Heirs and Succeſſors of the ſaid Queen, *given* and *granted* to their beloved and faithful Liegemen *Thomas Dockwray*, *John Cawood*, *Henry Coke*, *William Bonham*, and to diverſe other Perſons named in the ſame Letters Patents, being FREEMEN of the Myſtery

The Preamble ſetting forth the *General Grant of Incorporation* by PHILIP and MARY.

or

or Art of *Stationers* of the City of London and Suburbs thereof, That THEY in Deed, Fact and Name, ſhall be *One Body of themſelves for ever*, and *one perpetual* Society corporate of *one Maſter* and *two Keepers* or *Wardens* in the Society of the ſame Myſtery or Art of *Stationers* of the City aforeſaid; and that they might have *a perpetual Succeſſion.*

II. And the ſaid King and Queen then by the ſame Letters Patents have further of their own ſpecial Grace, certain Knowledge and mere Motion, ordained, created, erected, made and conſtituted the foreſaid THOMAS DOCKWRAY *Maſter* of the ſame Myſtery or Art of Stationers of the ſaid City for *one* Year next enſuing; and the foreſaid JOHN CAWOOD and HENRY COKE *Keepers* or *Wardens* of the ſame Myſtery or Art of *Stationers* of the foreſaid City for *one* Year next enſuing; and They have *made* and *conſtituted* the foreſaid WILLIAM BONHAM and ALL the other Perſons named in the ſame Letters Patents the *Commonalty* of the ſame Myſtery or Art of *Stationers* of the foreſaid City. And

The *Firſt* Maſter.

The *Firſt* Wardens.

The *Firſt* Freemen.

III. Further THEY have by the ſame Letters Patents ordained, created, erected, made and conſtituted the foreſaid *Maſter*, *Keepers* or *Wardens* and *Commonalty* in Deed and Name ONE BODY of themſelves *for ever* and ONE SOCIETY *for ever* corporate of *one Maſter* and *two Keepers* or *Wardens* and *Commonalty* of the ſame Myſtery or Art of *Stationers* of the foreſaid City of *London*; and THEY have INCORPORATED the ſame *Maſter* and *Keepers* or *Wardens* and *Commonalty*; and THEY by their ſame Letters Patents have *really* and *fully* created, erected, ordained, made, declared and conſtituted THEM a *Body corporate* to continue

The Maſter, Wardens and Commonalty or *Freemen* are made *one Body* corporate *for ever*,

continue *for ever* by the Name of the *Maſter* and *Keepers* or *Wardens* and *Commonalty* of the Myſtery or Art of *Stationers* of the City of *London*. And

IV. That the *ſame* Maſter, Keepers or Wardens and Commonalty and THEIR SUCCESSORS might for the future have *a perpetual Succeſſion*: And that the *ſame Maſter*, and *Keepers* or *Wardens* and *Commonalty* and THEIR SUCCESSORS *for ever* might be ſtiled, named and called by the Name of the *Maſter* and *Keepers* or *Wardens* and *Commonalty* of the Myſtery or Art of *Stationers* of the City of *London*. And

And they *jointly* have a *perpetual Succeſſion*.

How thay are to be *called*.

V. That THEY might be enabled to plead and to be impleaded, and to anſwer and to be anſwered by *that Name* in all and ſingular Matters, Suits and Plaints, Actions and Demands and Cauſes before any Judges and Juſtices whoſoever, and in any Courts and Places of Judicature whatſoever: And

How to *plead*, &c.

VI. That THEY might have a *Common Seal* for their proper Uſe and Buſineſs, and for the ſealing of all and ſingular their Deeds and Writings any wiſe touching or concerning their Affairs and Buſineſs. And

To have a *Common Seal*.

VII. That the ſame *Maſter* and *Keepers* or *Wardens* and *Commonalty* and THEIR SUCCESSORS might from Time to Time make, ordain and eſtabliſh, as often as they ſhould ſee proper and convenient, *Ordinances*, *Proviſions* and *Laws* for the *good* and *well* Ordering and Governing of the FREEMEN of the Art or Myſtery aforeſaid and of the Commonalty aforeſaid;

Not a Court of Aſſiſtants, but the *Commonalty* or *Freemen*, with the *Maſter* and *Wardens* empowered to *make* Laws,

VIII. PROVIDED *thoſe* Ordinances, Proviſions and Laws ſhould be in no wiſe *repugnant* or *contrary* to the *Laws* and *Statutes* of their Kingdom of ENGLAND, or in *Pre-*

Which muſt in all reſpects be agreeable to the Laws of the Land.

judice to the Common-weal of the ſame Kingdom. And

The *Commonalty*, &c. ſhall meet for ſuch Purpoſes without Moleſtation of *any Perſon.*

IX. That THEY and THEIR SUCCESSORS *for ever* might be enabled lawfully and ſafely, as often as they pleaſed, to call *lawful* and *honeſt* Meetings of themſelves for enacting *ſuch-like* Laws and Ordinances, and for conſidering other Affairs for the *Benefit* of the ſame Myſtery or Art, and of the *ſame Commonalty*, and for other *lawful Cauſes* in the Manner aforeſaid, without Moleſtation or Inquietude of the ſame foreſaid King and Queen, the Heirs or Succeſſors of the foreſaid Queen or of any other Perſon. And

The Commonalty or *Freemen* from amongſt *Themſelves* ſhall *yearly*, or *oftner* or *ſeldomer* chuſe a Maſter and Wardens,

X. That the foreſaid *Maſter* and *Keepers* or *Wardens* and the *Commonalty* of the ſaid Myſtery or Art of *Stationers* of the City aforeſaid, and THEIR SUCCESSORS, or the greater Part of THEM being met together lawfully, and in convenient Places, might *yearly* FOR EVER, or *oftener* or *ſeldomer*, at ſuch Times and Places within the City aforeſaid, as THEY ſhould think fit, *chuſe from among* THEMSELVES and make *one Maſter* and *two Keepers* or *Wardens* of the ſame Myſtery or Art of *Stationers* of the City aforeſaid, to *rule*, *govern* and to *ſuperviſe* the foreſaid Myſtery and Society, and all the Men of the ſame Myſtery and their Buſineſs: And

Whom THEY may remove and diſplace at *their* Pleaſure.

XI. That THEY might *remove* and *put out*, as it ſhould ſeem to THEM beſt, the former *Maſter* and former *Keepers* or *Wardens* from thoſe Offices. And

When the Maſter has a *double Vote.*

XII. That, if, and as often as it happeneth in any Election that the *Maſter* and *Keepers* or *Wardens* and *Commonalty* aforeſaid ſhould be *equal* in *one Vote*, one Part oppoſing the other in ſuch Election, that *then* and *ſo often* the Maſter

Maſter of the foreſaid Myſtery, (if there ſhould then be any Maſter) or the ſenior Keeper or Warden of that Myſtery, (if there ſhould then be no Maſter of that Myſtery) might have *two Votes* in ſuch Elections. And

When the Senior Warden has a *double Vote.*

XIII. That the *Maſter* and *Keepers* or *Wardens* and *Commonalty* of the foreſaid Myſtery and THEIR SUCCESSORS, for the Time being, *for ever* might be deemed *in Law fit* and *able Perſons* as well to give, grant and diſpoſe of Lands and Tenements, and their Goods and Chattels, as to purchaſe, poſſeſs, take and receive for themſelves and their Succeſſors, Lands, Tenements, Poſſeſſions, Goods, Chattels and Hereditaments, to be had, enjoyed and poſſeſſed by themſelves and their Succeſſors *for ever*, the Statute againſt putting Lands and Tenements in *Mortmain* or any other Statute, Act or Ordinance publiſhed to the contrary notwithſtanding;

The Maſter, Wardens and Commonalty may *ſell* and *purchaſe*, &c.

Notwithſtanding the Statute of *Mortmain* &c.

XIV. PROVIDED that the ſaid Lands, Tenements and Hereditaments ſo to be by them purchaſed and poſſeſſed be within the ſaid City of LONDON, or Suburbs or Liberties of the ſame City; and that they might not exceed by any means the yearly Value of *twenty Pounds* of lawful Money of ENGLAND. And

Provided the Purchaſe be in LONDON, and does not exceed the yearly Value of 20 *l.*

XV. The ſame King and Queen by the ſame Letters Patents have for Themſelves and the Succeſſors of the foreſaid Queen granted, ordained and conſtituted that *no Perſon* within the Realm of ENGLAND or the Dominions thereof ſhould *practiſe* or *exerciſe* by themſelves or their Journeymen, their Servants, or by any other Perſon, the Art or Myſtery of *printing* or *ſtamping* any Book or any Thing to be ſold or bargained for within this Kingdom of ENGLAND or Dominions thereof,

No Perſon to exerciſe the Art of Printing for Sale, except he be *free* of the *Stationers* Company of LONDON;

thereof, unleſs the ſame Perſon at the Time of his foreſaid Printing or Stamping were or ſhould be One of the foreſaid Society, or ſhould have the Licence of the ſame Lord the King and Lady the Queen, or of the Heirs or the Succeſſors of the foreſaid Queen for that Purpoſe. And

The Patentees excepted.

The Maſter and Wardens and *Freemen* empowered to *ſearch*,

XVI. Further the ſame Lord the King and Lady the Queen have granted, ordained and conſtituted for Themſelves, and the Heirs and Succeſſors of the foreſaid Queen, to the foreſaid *Maſter* and *Keepers* or *Wardens* and *Commonalty* of the Myſtery or Art of *Stationers* of the City of LONDON and to THEIR SUCCESSORS *for ever*, That it might be very lawful for the *Maſter* and *Keepers* or *Wardens* and *Commonalty* of the Myſtery or Art of *Stationers* of the City of LONDON and THEIR SUCCESSOR for the Time being both to *ſearch*, as often they ſhould pleaſe, in any Place, Shop, Houſe, Chamber or Building of any Stamper, Printer, Binder or Seller of any ſort of Books within their Kingdom of ENGLAND or Dominions thereof, concerning or for any Books or Things printed and ſtamped, or to be printed or ſtamped, and to *take* and *ſeize* all ſuch Books and Things which ſhould be printed or ſtamped contrary to the Form or Tenor of any Statute, Act or Proclamation, as it doth *more fully* appear by the ſame Letters Patents enrolled in our Court of Chancery of Record. And

And *ſeize*, &c. prohibited Books. See the Charter of *Philip* and *Mary*, § 13, 14.

The *Petition* of the Maſter, Wardens and *Commonalty* to K. *Car.* II. for a Confirmation of the Charter granted.

XVII. WHEREAS Our beloved Subjects the *Maſter* and *Keepers* or *Wardens* and *Commonalty* of the Myſtery or Art of *Stationers* of the City of LONDON have humbly beſought US that WE by our Letters Patents under Our own great Seal of ENGLAND would be graciouſly

ciouſly pleaſed to RATIFY and CONFIRM *the fore-recited Letters Patents* and ALL the Liberties, Franchiſes and Privileges contained therein. And

ed by *Philip* and *Mary* to the Company of *Stationers*.

XVIII. Further have alſo beſought US, That by the ſame Our Letters Patents ſuch *Proviſions* might be made in *Them* that the *governing Part* of them, the foreſaid *Maſter* and *Keepers* or *Wardens* and *Commonalty* of the Myſtery or Art of *Stationers* of the City of LONDON, and alſo the CLERK of the *ſame Society* ſhould for the future be ſuch Perſon as WE might account faithful and obedient to US, our Heirs and Succeſſors; and That after the Election of all ſuch Perſons into any Place of Government in the Society aforeſaid, ſuch Perſon upon juſt Complaint to be made to US, Our Heirs and to Our Succeſſors in Our Council, might be *liable to be removed* by an Order of Our Council: And That THEY ſhall immediately thereupon proceed to the Election of ſome other fit Perſon in his or their Place or Places:

Their Petition, that the *Governing Part* and *Clerk* ſhould be liable to be removed by Order of the *Privy Council*.

XIX. WE therefore willing and deſiring the *Safety* of Our beloved Subjects the *Maſter* and *Keepers* or *Wardens* and *Commonalty* of the Myſtery or Art of *Stationers* of the City of LONDON, DO of Our ſpecial Grace, certain Knowledge and mere Motion for US, Our Heirs and Succeſſors, *ratify*, *allow*, *approve* and *confirm* to the foreſaid *Maſter* and *Keepers* or *Wardens* and *Commonalty* of the Myſtery or Art of *Stationers* of the City of LONDON and to THEIR SUCCESSORS *for ever* the *foreſaid fore-recited Letters Patents*, and all and ſingular the Conceſſions or Grants, Liberties, Privileges, Franchiſes and Immunities ſpecifically contained in the ſame Letters Patents under

The Charter of *Philip* and *Mary* confirmed to the Company of *Stationers*, without Demination.

under the *Proviſions* and *Regulations* mentioned hereafter in *theſe* Our Letters Patents. And

[N. B. *All the* Additions, Proviſions *and* Regulations *mentioned hereafter in* this CHARTER, *in order to pave the Way to* Arbitrary Power, *were* repealed *and declared* unjuſt, illegal, null *and* void, *by a ſpecial Act of Parliament in the* 2 W. & M. *See* p. 24 *preceeding.*

And from hence the Reader may form juſt *Sentiments of* their *Miſconduct and* Arbitrary Proceedings, *who* continue *to oppreſs their Brethren by virtue of* THIS Charter *only, which has been made* null *and* void *to all Intents and Purpoſes by the* foreſaid Act *of Parliament above* fifty *Years ſince.*]

XX. Further WE declare That WE are graciouſly pleaſed to allow and approve of Our beloved Subjects *Roger Norton* the preſent Maſter, and *John Towſe* and *Henry Hills* the preſent Keepers or Wardens of the ſaid Myſtery or Art of *Stationers* of the City of LONDON to remain and continue the Maſter and the Keepers or Wardens of the ſaid Myſtery or Art of *Stationers* of the City of LONDON for one Year from their Elections into the ſame ſeperate Places according to the Uſage and Ordinances of the ſaid Society; and alſo from thenceforward till ſome other fit Perſon and Perſons ſhall be elected out of the COURT OF ASSISTANTS of the ſaid Society *hereafter erected* and *ordained* by theſe Our Letters Patents, at the uſual Time of their Election and according to the Uſage of the ſaid Society to be the *Maſter* and *Keepers* or *Wardens* of the ſaid Myſtery or Art of *Stationers* of the City of LONDON for the Year enſuing, *Who* and *each* of them *ſhall hold Communion with our Church of* ENGLAND; and *ſhall have received the* LORD'S SUPPER according to the Form preſcribed by Law in the Church

COURT OF ASSISTANTS, the firſt Time mentioned in the Stationers Charter, but repealed by 2 *W.* & *M.* See p. 24.

Church of ENGLAND at leaſt *within ſix Months* before ſuch Election; And after ſuch Election of ſuch a Perſon, who ſhall hold Communion with the *Church of* ENGLAND, as ſaid before, and *before Admiſſion* into ſuch reſpective Offices and Places ſuch *Maſter* and *Keeper* or *Warden* ſhall take the Oaths of *Allegiance* and *Supremacy* and *the Oaths* preſcribed and mentioned in the Act *for the well governing and regulating of Corporations* made in the thirteenth Year of Our Reign, together with *the Oaths* of the Maſter and Keepers or Wardens of the ſaid Myſtery or Art of *Stationers* of the City of LONDON, for the due Execution of the proper Offices of the foreſaid *Maſter* and *Keepers* or *Wardens* reſpectively: And alſo *They* ſhall reſpectively ſubſcribe the Declaration preſcribed and mentioned in the foreſaid Act *for the well-governing and regulating of Corporations*. And WE by theſe Our Letters Patents direct and require, and give and grant Power and Authority to the foreſaid *Maſter* and *Keepers* or *Wardens* of the Myſtery or Art of *Stationers* of the City of LONDON, or to *any two* of them to *tender* and *adminiſter* and require thoſe *ſeperate Oaths* and Subſcriptions in a Court of Aſſiſtants of the ſame Company. And

XXI. To the End that the *Maſter* and *Keepers* or *Wardens* and *Commonalty* of the Myſtery or Art of *Stationers* of the City of LONDON may for the future be aided and adviſed by the *prudent*, *honeſt* and *faithful* Counſel of the *Court of Aſſiſtants* in all their Affairs and Buſineſs whatſoever, WE therefore at the humble Petition of *Roger Norton*, *John Towſe* and *Henry Hills*, the preſent Maſter and Keepers or Wardens of the foreſaid Myſtery or Art of

Stationers

Stationers of the City of LONDON Do ordain, appoint, erect and conſtitute a *Court of Aſſiſtants* in the foreſaid Company of *Stationers*, to be and to conſiſt of Freemen, being Members of the foreſaid Company, Myſtery or Art of *Stationers* of the City of LONDON, in which Court the *Maſter* for the Time being, and in his Abſence the *two Keepers* or *Wardens* of the ſaid Company ſhall always *preſide*, and all the other *Brethren* and *Freemen* of the foreſaid Myſtery or Art of *Stationers* of the City of LONDON hereafter named and appointed by Us in theſe Our Letters Patents ſhall be *aſſiſting* to Him and Them, and ſhall *give their Votes* and declare their *Opinions*, as it has been uſual in ſuch Courts. And the ſaid Maſter and Keepers or Wardens ſhall with the *Counſel, Direction and Conſent of the Aſſiſtants* or of the greater Part of them in the Court of Aſſiſtants ordain, regulate, govern and direct all Matters and Affairs of the ſaid Company, and alſo of the Commonalty thereof. And

The Court of Aſſiſtants conſtituted, not at the Petition of the *Maſter, Wardens* and FREEMEN, but of the *Maſter* and *Wardens* ONLY.

Who to *preſide* in a Court of Aſſiſtants.

The Power of a Court of Aſſiſtants.

XXII. If it ſhould happen that the Brethren and Members of the foreſaid Court of Aſſiſtants are equally divided in any Matter whatſoever, then the Maſter ſhall have two Votes. Wherefore

When the *Maſter* has a *double* Vote.

XXIII. WE will and by theſe Preſents for Us, Our Heirs and Succeſſors do appoint, ordain and conſtitute, at the humble Petition aforeſaid, Our beloved Subjects *Richard Royſton, John Macock, James Cotterell, Henry Herringman, Henry Twyford, John Playford* ſen. *John Bellinger, Robert Scott, Robert Horne, John Baker, Ambroſe Iſted, Henry Clerke, Simon Miller, Thomas Baſſet, John Sims, Robert Clavell, William Phillips, Samuel Heyrick, Adam Felton, Samuel Lowndes, William Cooper, Chriſtopher Wilkinſon,*

The Names of the *firſt* Court of Aſſiſtants created by *this* Charter.

Wilkinſon, *Thomas Dring*, *Benjamin Tooke*, *Thomas Paſſenger*, *Walter Kettleby*, and *William Shrewſbury* to be *Aſſiſtants* and of the Council of the foreſaid *Maſter* and *Keepers* or *Wardens* and *Commonalty* of the Myſtery or Art of Stationers of the City of LONDON, and Brethren of the Court of Aſſiſtants aforeſaid. And

The Maſter and Wardens paſt thoſe Offices *to take their Places* in the Court of Aſſiſtants according to *their Seniority* in Freedom.

XXIV. Further WE will that the preſent *Maſter* and *Keepers* or *Wardens*, and alſo every other *Maſter* and *Keeper* or *Warden*, who ſhall be for the future, after the going out of their Offices of Maſter and Keepers or Wardens, and the Performance of all Requiſites upon their Admiſſion (according to the Direction mentioned and contained in theſe Letters Patents) ſhall be and continue Brethren and Members of the foreſaid Court of Aſſiſtants ſubject to the Regulations contained in theſe Our Letters Patents, and They ſhall take their Places in the ſame Court of Aſſiſtants according to their Seniorities in the foreſaid Society, in ſuch manner as they had been accuſtomed before in the ſame Society. And

Who to have Power to call a Court of Aſſiſtants.

XXV. WE do by theſe Letters Patents authorize the Maſter and Keepers or Wardens or any two of Them to call, ſummons and hold a Court of Aſſiſtants from Time to Time and at all Times (the *Lord*'s *Day* only excepted) and to hold it in ſome Place or Places, within the City of LONDON, as ſhall ſeem to them moſt convenient. And

See § xxiii. on page 16.

XXVI. WE by theſe Preſents do will and command the ſame *Richard Royſton*, *John Macock*, *James Cotterell*, *Henry Herringman*, *Henry Twyford*, *John Playford* ſen. *John Bellinger*, *Robert Scott*, *Robert Horne*, *John Baker*, *Ambroſe Iſted*, *Henry Clerke*, *Simon Miller*, *Thomas Baſſett*,

ſett, John Sims, Robert Clavell, William Phillips, Samuel Heyrick, Adam Felton, Samuel Lowndes, William Cooper, Chriſtopher Wilkinſon, Thomas Dring, Benjamin Tooke, Thomas Paſſenger, Walter Kettleby, and *William Shrewſbury* to be *for the future* both Brethren and Members of the foreſaid Court of Aſſiſtants untill they or any of them ſhall happen to die or be removed. And in Caſe of Death or of the Removal of any one of the forementioned Perſons from the Court of Aſſiſtants aforeſaid, Then WE will and ordain for US, Our Heirs and Succeſſors That the *Maſter* and *Keepers* or *Wardens* and *Aſſiſtants*, who ſhall then be alive and continue in their foreſaid Places, or *the greater Part* of Them in the Court of Aſſiſtants, at ſuch convenient Times as They or the greater Part of them in a Court of Aſſiſtants ſhall think fit, ſhall, as the Caſe ſhall require, *chuſe* one or more *fit* Perſon or Perſons to be Aſſiſtants and of the Council to the foreſaid Maſter and Keepers or Wardens and Commonalty of the Myſtery or Art of *Stationers* of the City of LONDON in the Affairs and Buſineſs of the ſaid Society, and to be a Brother and Member, or Brethren and Members of the ſaid Court of Aſſiſtants; and the ſaid Perſon or Perſons ſhall each and every one of them *hold Communion* with Our Church of ENGLAND, and *within ſix Months*, at leaſt, before ſuch Election, ſhall have received the *Lord's Supper* according to the Form preſcribed by Law in the Church of ENGLAND; and after ſuch Election and before his or their Admiſſion into the Place or Office aforeſaid, He or They ſhall take the Oaths of *Allegiance* and *Supremacy*, and the *Oaths* preſcribed and mentioned in the Act *for the well Governing and Regulating of Corporations*

Power granted to chuſe *new* Aſſiſtants on the *Death* or *Removal* of the above mentioned *only*.

How every Member of the Court of Aſſiſtants muſt be qualified.

Corporations made in the foreſaid Thirteenth Year of Our Reign, together with the *Oath of Aſſiſtants* for the due Execution of the foreſaid Office or Place; And He or They ſhall alſo *ſubſcribe* the appointed Declaration mentioned in the foreſaid Act *for Regulating Corporations*. And

XXVII. WE by theſe Preſents do ordain, authorize and require the *Maſter* and *Keepers* or *Wardens* or any *two of them* in a Court of Aſſiſtants to *tender* and *require* (the Elect) to take the ſaid *Oaths*. And

By whom to be ſworn.

XXVIII. Further KNOW YE That upon the further humble Petition of the foreſaid *Roger Norton*, *John Towſe* and *Henry Hills*, the Maſter and Keepers or Wardens of the Myſtery or Art of *Stationers* of the City of LONDON, WE approve and by theſe Preſents do conſtitute, ordain and appoint *John Garret*, late Clerk of the ſaid Company to be and to continue Clerk of the ſaid Company untill He ſhall die, or ſhall be removed: And in Caſe of Death or Removal, Then WE will and command for US, Our Heirs and Succeſſors, the *Maſter* and *Keepers* or *Wardens* and *Aſſiſtants* or the *greater Part* of Them in the Court of Aſſiſtants at ſuch convenient Times, as They or the greater Part of Them in a Court of Aſſiſtants ſhall think fit, to chuſe one other fit Perſon to be the *Clerk* of the ſaid Company, who ſhall hold Communion with Our Church of ENGLAND, and ſhall have within ſix Months, at leaſt, before ſuch Election, received the *Lord*'s *Supper* according to the Form preſcribed by Law in the Church of ENGLAND, and ſhall, after ſuch Election and before Admiſſion into ſuch Place or Office, be *preſented* to US, Our Heirs and Succeſſors

The *Clerk* appointed by this Chater was conſtituted not at the Petition of the FREEMEN, but *only* of the *Maſter* and *Wardens*.

By whom thence forward to be *choſen*.

How to be qualified.

Muſt be preſented to and *approved* by the KING.

for Our Approbation: And if WE, Our Heirs and Succeſſors ſhall approve, or any of US ſhall approve of ſuch a Clerk under Our or Their Royal Seal or Hand, That then the ſame Clerk, taking the Oaths of *Allegiance* and *Supremacy* and the *Oaths* preſcribed and mentioned in the Act *for the well Governing and Regulating Corporations* made in the foreſaid thirteenth Year of Our Reign, together with the *Oath of the Clerk* for the due Execution of the foreſaid Office or Place; and alſo having ſubſcribed the Declaration preſcribed and mentioned in the foreſaid Act *for the Regulation of Corporations* (and by theſe Preſents WE ordain, authorize and require the ſaid Maſter and Keepers or Wardens or any two of Them in a Court of Aſſiſtants to tender and require the ſame) He ſhall thence forward be admitted. But

When the Election of a *Clerk* is to be *void.*

XXIX. If WE, Our Heirs or Succeſſors or any of Us ſhall *refuſe* to approve of ſuch a Perſon ſo to be elected, as is aforeſaid, to be the Clerk, then ſuch Election ſhall be *void*, and the Maſter and Keepers or Wardens and Aſſiſtants or the greater Part of Them in a Court of Aſſiſtants ſhall immediately proceed to the Election of one other Perſon to be the Clerk, who ſhall be preſented for ſuch Approbation, as aforeſaid; and ſo, until ſuch a Perſon ſhall be elected as ſhall be *approved* by US, Our Heirs or Succeſſors under Our or Their Royal Seal or Hand, as aforeſaid, and He ſhall take the ſeveral *Oaths*, and ſhall ſubſcribe in the Manner aforeſaid.

PROVISO, That all Elections of *unqualified* Perſons are void.

XXX. PROVIDED always, and WE further will and declare That every Election of a Maſter and Keepers or Wardens, Aſſiſtants and Clerk made contrary to the Direction before

before mentioned, and of Perſons not found to be qualified in the Manner aforeſaid, ſhall be abſolutely void to all Intents and Purpoſes whatſoever.

XXXI. PROVIDED always, and by theſe Preſents WE will and declare That it is and ſhall be lawful for US, Our Heirs and Succeſſors from Time to Time and at all Times for the Future in Our Privy Council, by Order of US and of Our Heirs and Succeſſors from Time to Time to *put out* and to *remove* the foreſaid Maſter and Keepers or Wardens, Aſſiſtants or Clerk of the Company mentioned by US in theſe Our Letters Patents, or ſhall be hereafter choſen; And from that Time the Place or Office of ſuch a Perſon ſo removed ſhall be vacant, and the Maſter and Keepers or Wardens and Aſſiſtants ſhall proceed in the Manner aforeſaid to the Election of ſome other proper Perſon or Perſons into the Place of the Perſon or Perſons ſo removed and put out by US, Our Heirs or Succeſſors in the Council as aforeſaid. And the ſaid Perſon or Perſons ſo to be choſen ſhall before Admiſſion into ſuch Place or Office take the foreſaid ſeveral Oaths and ſubſcribe in the Manner aforeſaid. And

PROVISO, For the King's Power to *put out* and *remove* the fore mentioned *Officers*.

In all ſuch Caſes *new* Elections to be made.

The new Elected to be *duly* qualified.

XXXII. Further WE will and command for US, Our Heirs and Succeſſors, the Maſter, Keepers or Wardens and *Commonalty* of the Myſtery or Art of *Stationers* of the City of LONDON, That the ſaid Maſter and Keepers or Wardens and *Commonalty* of the Myſtery or Art of *Stationers* of the City of LONDON, and *Their Succeſſors* from Time to Time and at all Times hereafter may and ſhall be *ſubject* to the *Lord Mayor* and Court of Aldermen in all Things that may pertain to the well Governing

The Stationers Company not exempt from the Juriſdiction of the Court of Lord Mayor and Aldermen.

verning and Regulating of the City of LONDON. And

The Regulation of the Preſs.

XXXIII. WHEREAS the Regulation and well Governing of the Preſs is a Matter that very much concerns US and Our Kingdom of ENGLAND, and WE particularly conſidering that many Perſons do very often preſume to print diverſe Heretical, Schiſmatical, Blaſphemous, Seditious, Treaſonable and Unlawful Books and Pamphlets; WE therefore at the humble Petition of Our foreſaid beloved Subjects the Maſter and Keepers or Wardens and Commonalty of the Myſtery or Art of *Stationers* of the City of LONDON, taking the ſame into Our Royal Conſideration, and willing, as much as in Us lies, to hinder ſuch Things for the future, Do ſtrictly order and command all Our Subjects, whoſoever they be, as they may eſteem Our Favour, and will avoid Our Diſpleaſure, That no Perſon whoſoever ſhall for the future preſume to erect any *Printing-Houſe* or *Preſs*, or continue any Printing-Houſe or Preſs, as a *Maſter-Printer*, or contrive or found any Letter for Printing, or ſhall make any Preſs for the Printing of Books, unleſs ſuch Perſon be a Brother and Member and Freeman of the foreſaid Company of *Stationers*, and an Inhabitant within the City of LONDON or Liberties thereof (excepting only the Printers of the two Univerſities of *Oxford* and *Cambridge*, and Our authorized Printers in the *Engliſh* Tongue, and alſo in the *Latin*, *Greek* and *Hebrew* Tongue). And

No Perſon, except *free* of the *Stationers* Company, and an *Inhabitant* of the City of *London* or the Liberties thereof, ſhall *erect* a *Printing-Houſe* or *Preſs*, or act as a *Maſter-Printer* or *Founder*, The *King*'s Printer and thoſe of the *two Univerſities* excepted.

XXXIV. Further by theſe Preſents WE ſtrictly order and command That no Perſon whoſoever for the future do bind, ſell or expoſe to Sale, as a Trader in Binding, Sewing or Selling of Books within the Cities of LONDON and WESTMINSTER

None but *free Stationers* of LONDON may *bind*, *ſell*, *&c.* any Book, *&c.* in London or Weſtmin-

WESTMINSTER and *four Miles* Circumference of Them, any printed Book, Pamphlet or Paper, except only ſuch Perſons as are Members and Freemen of the foreſaid Company of *Stationers* of LONDON. And

ſter, or within four Miles thereof.

XXXV. Further WE ſtrictly order and command all Our beloved Subjects whoſoever, That they, nor any of Them, do not print, or cauſe or procure to be printed, nor buy, ſell, ſew, publiſh or expoſe to Sale any Book, Pamphlet, Pourtrait, Picture or Paper, or the Part of any ſuch Book, Pamphlet, Pourtrait, Picture or Paper, in which ſhall be contained any Matter or Thing againſt the Government of Us, Our Heirs or Succeſſors, or to the Prejudice and Scandal of any other Perſon or Perſons whomſoever. And

They ſhall not print, buy, ſell, &c. any Thing againſt the Government, or to the Prejudice and Scandal of any Perſon.

XXXVI. Further WE ſtrictly order and command all Book-Sellers, Binders, and Sewers and Our other Subjects whomſoever, That for the future all Sellers of Books, as Traders, within Our Cities of LONDON and WESTMINSTER, and *four Miles* Circumference of them, ſhall keep open Shops, and expoſe their Books in the ſame publickly, SO THAT the Maſter and Keepers or Wardens of the Company of *Stationers* of the City of LONDON, or any two of Them, or any One of Them taking with Him one or more Member or Members of the Court of Aſſiſtants aforeſaid, and ſuch other legal Aſſiſtance (with the Warrant hereafter mentioned) as ſhall ſeem to Him or Them to be neceſſary, at any convenient Times, may ſee and inſpect the foreſaid Books. And

Bookſellers, Binders, Sewers, &c. ſhall keep and expoſe their Books in open Shops.

By whom to be ſearched.

XXXVII. Whereas divers Brethren and Members of the ſaid Company of Maſter and Keepers or Wardens and Commonalty of the Myſtery

Myſtery or Art of *Stationers* of the City of LONDON have great Part of their *Eſtates* in *Books* and *Copies*, and for the Space of one hundred Years and upwards now laſt paſt, and conſtantly down to the preſent Time have had a *publick Regiſter* kept in their Common Hall for the Entry and Deſcription of Books and Copies (not granted by Our Letters Patents or of any of Our Royal Predeceſſors) regarding their being printed by or for the Members and Brethren and Freemen of the ſame Company: WE therefore willing and deſiring to confirm and eſtabliſh every Brother and Member and Freeman of the ſaid Company in their juſt Rights and Properties do well APPROVE of the foreſaid *Regiſter*; And of Our ſpecial Grace, certain Knowledge and mere Motion WE for Ourſelves, Our Heirs and Succeſſors, do give and grant by theſe Letters Patents to the foreſaid Maſter and Keepers or Wardens and Commonalty of the Myſtery or Art of *Stationers* of the City of LONDON, That every Brother, Member and Freeman of the ſame Company of *Stationers*, who now is or ſhall hereafter be a Brother, Member and Freeman of the ſame Company, and ſhall be, and ſhall become a Proprietor of any Book or Copy, either by Gift or Purchaſe from the Author, or afterwards from ſuch other Perſon, who has or ſhall have the Right and Power of giving, granting or ſelling of the ſame, and ſhall duely enter the ſame Book or Copy in the ſaid Regiſter of the Company of *Stationers*, to Him or to Them, as his or their Copy or Copies, That then ſuch Perſon ſhall have and enjoy the ſole Right, Power, Priviledge and Authority of printing ſuch Book or Copy, as in that caſe has been uſual heretofore, for the Space of one

The *Publick Regiſter* of the Company for *Copies* and *Books* confirmed and eſtabliſhed.

The *Security* to the Proprietor of ſuch Books, *&c.* ſo *entered.*

one hundred Years and upwards, ſtrictly forbidding, prohibiting and commanding all Our Subjects and of Our Heirs and Succeſſors, That they or any of them at any Time hereafter do not print, or cauſe to be printed any Book or Copy, or Part of any Book or Copy, nor import, or cauſe to be imported, nor ſew, bind, ſell or expoſe to Sale any Book or Copy, or the Part of any Book or Copy printed contrary to theſe our Letters Patents. And

A *Prohibition* to print, &c. Books, &c. ſo regiſtered.

XXXVIII. Further WE by theſe Our Letters Patents do give and grant to the foreſaid Maſter and Keepers or Wardens and Commonalty of the Myſtery or Art of *Stationers* of the City of LONDON, and to Their Succeſſors, That the Maſter and Keepers or Wardens of the ſame Company or any two of Them, or any One of Them taking with him one or more Member or Members of the ſaid Court of Aſſiſtants, and alſo ſuch other lawful Aſſiſtants as ſhall ſeem expedient, and a Warrant of the Lord Chief Juſtice's of the King's Bench, or of one of Our Principal Secrataries for the Time being, at all convenient Times hereafter may enter and come into the Houſe, Shop, Workhouſe, Warehouſe, Room, Sellar or other Place of any Perſon whomſoever, to ſee what is therein to be printed, and printed: And if upon ſuch a Search they ſhall find any Thing to be printed, or printed, which ſhall contain any Matter or Thing againſt Our Government, or of Our Heirs or Succeſſors, or againſt the Doctrine or Diſcipline of Our Church of ENGLAND, then immediately they ſhall carry the ſame, together with the Name or Names of the Perſon or Perſons, where ſuch unlawful Books, Pamphlets or Papers have been found ready to be printed, or printed, to One of Our

Who, and in what manner they are impowered to *ſearch* Shops, &c.

And to *ſeize* on the Books, &c. forbid in this Charter;

Which Books, &c. muſt be carried to the *Secretary* of State.

Principal Secretaries of State, to the end that He or They may be puniſhed for the ſame, and That ſuch Book, Pamphlet or Paper, or Part thereof, ſo to be printed, or printed, be diſpoſed off according to the Laws of Our Kingdom of ENGLAND. And

All Men obliged to be aſſiſting in the due Execution of this Charter.

XXXIX. Further WE by theſe Our Letters Patents do will and Ordain all and ſingular the Officers and Subjects of US, Our Heirs and Succeſſors, as they may eſteem Our Favour and will avoid Our Diſpleaſure, That They and every One of Them, from Time to Time and at all Times, when their Aſſiſtance is needful, do Aid and Aſſiſt the foreſaid Maſter and Keepers or Wardens and Commonalty of the foreſaid Myſtery or Art of Stationers of the City of LONDON, in the due Execution of theſe Our Letters Patents. And

The Majority of a Court of Aſſiſtants to make Laws for the well governing of the Company. But *Note*, this is repealed by 2 *W.* & *M.*

XL. Finally WE, by theſe Our Letters Patents, do give and grant to the foreſaid Maſter and Keepers or Wardens and Commonalty of the Myſtery or Art of *Stationers* of the City of LONDON, and to their Succeſſors, That the ſame foreſaid Maſter and Keepers or Wardens and Aſſiſtants, or the greater Part of Them in a Court of Aſſiſtants of the ſaid Company, at any Time hereafter, may make, ordain, conſtitute and eſtabliſh, when They ſhall ſee proper, ſuch Ordinances, Proviſions and Laws for the good and ſound Government, Regulation and Governing of all the Freemen and Members of the foreſaid Company, the Maſter and Keepers or Wardens and Commonalty of the Myſtery or Art of *Stationers* of the foreſaid City of LONDON, as ſhall ſeem convenient to Them, or to the greater Part of Them, in a Court of Aſſiſtants of the ſaid Company;

XLI. PRO-

XLI. PROVIDED always That thoſe Ordinances, Proviſions and Laws be not in any wiſe repugnant or contrary to the Laws or Statutes of this Our Realm of ENGLAND. In teſtimony whereof, *&c.*

Provided that *ſuch Laws* are not *repugnant* or *contrary* to the Laws of the Land.

Witneſs MYSELF at WESTMINSTER 22 Day of *May*.

By Writ of Privy Seal.

Tranſlated from the Original Latin Record, *remaining* now *in the Chapel of the* Rolls, *as it was examined on the 8th of* December, 1741, *by*

Henry Rooke, *Clerk of the Rolls.*

☞ *The iniquitous Tendency of all the preceeding* Regulations, Proviſions, *and* Additions *to the* CHARTER *of* PHILIP *and* MARY *was ſo very palpable, and enraged the* FREEMEN *of the City of* LONDON *ſo much againſt the* Adviſers *and* Supporters *of ſuch* unjuſt, arbitrary *and* illegal *Conſtitutions, that King* JAMES II. *found himſelf under a Neceſſity to repeal the ſame, and, by an* Act *and* Deed, *ſigned by* his own Hand, *in the* Privy-Council, *to haſten, as much as in him lay, to reſtore* every *Company, and Member of the ſame, to their* ancient *and* legal RIGHTS *and* PRIVILEGES: *But as this was* more *effectually done by an* Act of Parliament *of* 2 W. & M. *we thought it needleſs to print the ſaid* Act of Reſtitution *made by* K. JAMES II. *in his* Privy Council.

Comberbatch *Reports*, 221, 5 W. & M. *in* B. R.

‘ Maſter, Wardens, *&c. of* Statio- ‘ ners *in the City of* London ‘ *againſt* Saliſbury, *upon a* Habeas ‘ Corpus.

Stationers Company By-Law.

‘ DEBT upon a *By-Law*, that the Ma- ‘ ſter, Wardens, and Aſſiſtants, or ma- ‘ jor Part of them, ſhould from Time to Time ‘ elect ſuch Members as they think fit into ‘ the Livery, and if any Perſon ſo elected ‘ refuſe to accept the ſame Office, *&c.* with- ‘ out a reaſonable Excuſe, to be approved by ‘ the Court of Aſſiſtants, that the Perſon ſo ‘ refuſing ſhould forfeit 40 *l.*

‘ The Declaration recites the *By-Law*, and ‘ that the Defendant on ſuch a Day was elected ‘ into the Livery, and refuſed, *&c. per quod ‘ actio accrevit*, &c. with Averment, that he ‘ had no reaſonable Excuſe, and that the *By- ‘ Law* was made by all the Corporation. The ‘ Defendant demurs.

‘ Northy *pro Defendente.*

‘ 1. The Company are here made their own ‘ Judges of the reaſonable Excuſe, which is ‘ againſt Law. 1 *Roll.* 364. *Caſe of the Tay- ‘ lors of Ipſwich.* 8 *Co. Dr.* Bonham's *Caſe.*

‘ 2. Admitting the *By-Law* to be good, here ‘ is no good Breach aſſigned, for the Defen- ‘ dant ſhould have been required by the Court

‘ of

‘ of Aſſiſtants, and to that End ſummoned
‘ before them, which is not alledged.

‘ *Sir* Barth. Shower *contra*.

‘ The Action is here brought by the Com-
‘ pany, the Approbation to be by the Court
‘ of Aſſiſtants, who could have no Benefit, but
‘ only as Part of the Community. If a *By-Law*
‘ were made that none ſhould do ſuch an Act,
‘ without the Conſent of a certain Perſon (who
‘ is a Freeman) it ſeemeth a good *By-Law*:
‘ As to the Caſe of the Taylors of *Ipſwich* in
‘ *Roll*'s *Abridgment*, the Reaſon of the Reſolu-
‘ tion of that Caſe by the Lord *Coke*'s 11th
‘ *Report* was, for that it tended to the Re-
‘ ſtraint of Trade, *&c.* If one of the Juſtices
‘ of this Court brings an Action in this Court,
‘ he may have Judgment, for it is *per Curiam*:
‘ So if one Coroner brings an Action, and he
‘ and another pronounce the Judgment of Out-
‘ lawry, it is no Error. 2 *Roll.* 93. But if a
‘ Mayor bring an Action before himſelf by
‘ Name, that is erroneous. Here they have
‘ averr'd, that he had no reaſonable Excuſe, and
‘ that the *By-Law* was made by the whole
‘ Company, whereof the Defendant is a Party,
‘ and the ſubject Matter of it is lawful, and the
‘ Defendant by his Demurrer hath confeſſed
‘ the Averments, and the Penalty ſhall be pre-
‘ ſumed *prima facie* to be reaſonable.

‘ Holt, *Chief Juſtice*.] Here the Cauſe of
‘ Excuſe is to be approved by them, ſo that,
‘ if it were reaſonable and not approved, the
‘ Party would be without Remedy; and we
‘ cannot here reject that Part: Where a Parcel
‘ of *By-Laws* come before us together, ſome
‘ good

' good and ſome bad, they may be ſever'd ;
' but not ſo where the Senſe is entire, as in
' this Caſe.

' Sir *Barth. Shower.*] Suppoſe it were,
' Upon due Proof, to be allow'd by a certain
' Officer, ſure that were good ?

' Holt, *Chief Juſtice.*] I doubt that.

' Sir *Barth. Shower.*] This *By-Law* was
' ſigned by the Lord Chancellor *Finch.*

' *Per Curiam.*] 'Tis never the better for
' that, for that is done of Courſe. So we uſe
' to do in the Circuits ; but if the Orders be
' not good, let the Parties look to that at
' their Peril.

' And the Court inclined for the Defendant
' upon both the Exceptions, but adviſed him
' to ſubmit to his Company, and recommended
' a Reference to my Lord Mayor, *&c.*'

FINIS.

LET *thoſe* GENTLEMEN, who *aſſume* the Office of *Maſter* and *Wardens*, now remember, that they can have *no* Pretence to complain of our laying the CHARTER and GRANTS before the World, ſeeing they had *public Notice* of the FREEMEN's Intention in the *Daily Poſt* of the 16th and 18th of *November* laſt. And it will appear by the *following* Letter of the 8*th Inſtant*, that each of them had one of *theſe* printed Copies delivered them *twelve* Days before the *then* intended Time of Publication: And, they have, moreover, been ſince indulged with *ſeven* Days more, to give them a *further* Opportunity to comply with the *juſt* and *reaſonable Expectations* of the FREEMEN, which muſt now appear to all the World to have been *fairly* founded upon their CHARTER and GRANTS, and not to have been the Effects of a *diſobedient* and *contentious Spirit*.

A Copy of the Letter ſent to the Maſter *and each of the* Wardens.

'*SIR*,

'THE incloſed CHARTER, GRANTS, *&c.* to the 'Company of STATIONERS, WE, and *ſeveral others* 'of the ſaid Company, have ſent you *before* Publication, 'that if any Conſequences fatal to the Company ſhould 'attend the *legal Method* WE propoſe to take for *redreſſing the Oppreſſions* which the FREEMEN of our Company 'have *long* and *unjuſtly* groan'd under, no Imputation 'may hereafter be laid to *our* Charge, that WE have not 'behaved with *due* Regard to the *Intereſt* of our Company, and to the *Authority* of thoſe, *who ſtile themſelves* 'our *Officers*. For which Reaſon, having the *real Welfare* of our Company *ſincerely* at Heart, WE ſhall *delay* 'the making them public till the 20*th Inſtant*.

'*From Yours, &c.*

'THO. OSBORNE,
'THO. OSBORNE, jun.
'RICHD. NUTT.'

'8 *Feb.* 1741.